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THE AUSTRALASIAN
Journal of Pharmacy
With which is Incorporated
The Australasian Chemist and Druggist.

Registered at the General Post Office, Melbourne, for Transmission by Post as a Newspaper

PHAR Storage

TRADE MARK AD 1915

The 'Allenburys' Foods

P. A. T. A.

MINIMUM RETAIL PRICES.

The 'Allenburys' Milk Food, No. 1 - 1s. 7d. per tin
The 'Allenburys' Milk Food, No. 2 - 1s. 7d. per tin
The 'Allenburys' Malted Food, No. 3 - 1s. per tin

Support the P.A.T.A.

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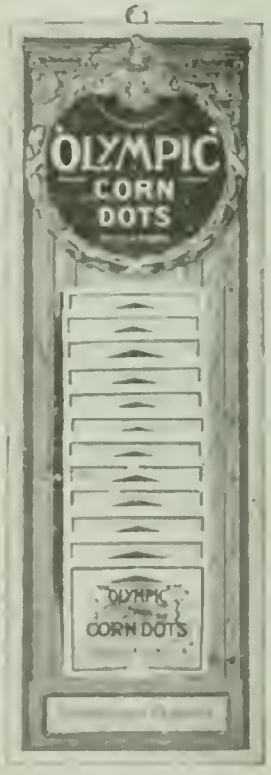
CONFORMS TO THE N.S.W. PURE FOOD ACT.

'OLYMPIC'

TRADE MARK

CORN DOTS



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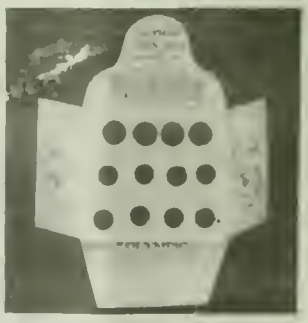

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Nett	£4	9 3

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ANTIPHLOGISTINE.

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June 18, 1910.

"The Polar Water Still we installed about nine months ago has been entirely satisfactory. "We have repeatedly analysed the water, and find it absolutely pure. The output of the "Still is all you claim for it under the conditions you require.
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Messrs. Pearson's Antiseptic Co. Ltd. have been granted the use of the Trade Mark "LYSOL" in Australia, but not wishing to perpetuate the German name they have incorporated with "Lysol" the British trade mark "PACOLOL."
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This fluid is guaranteed to be similar in composition and efficiency as the original German manufacture.

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ESTABLISHED 1879.

A simple and effective treatment for the various inflammatory affections of the bronchi. Especially useful for very young children. Avoids internal medication or may be used with any other treatment.

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No. 17.

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Coventry.

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We claim for this preparation that:—

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AND

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Journal of Pharmacy.

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Articles.

Relative Therapeutic Value of the Cinchona Alkaloids in Malaria.

The *Medical Journal of Australia*, of April 15th, publishes an abstract of the results of an extensive investigation by A. G. MacGilchrist, published *in extenso* in the *Indian Journal of Medical Research*, July, 1915. The peculiar value of this research lies in the fact that the conclusions arrived at were from trials upon a large number of fever patients and not by laboratory experiment. The latter method is, of course, valuable, but it is frequently found that results obtained by experiment *in vitro* are not fully experienced when trial is made upon the living body of a patient. The conclusions arrived at come as a surprise in that quinine sulphate was found to be less efficacious than cinchonine sulphate, and that cinchonidine sulphate and quinoidine are of least value of all. The British Pharmacopœia prescribes that Cinchonæ Rubræ Corten shall contain from 5 to 6 per cent. of total alkaloids of which not less than one-half shall consist of quinine and cinchonidine. Although the investigation referred to deals only with the effects of the cinchona alkaloids on malarial patients, the fair presumption is that similar results would be obtained in other febrile conditions of a specific nature caused by living organisms. With regard to the relative value of the alkaloids when

used as tonic it is practically impossible to arrive at any exact determination. There is, however, a widespread opinion that quinine is the most valuable in this respect and that cinchonidine is next in value. In fact, in one of the largest London Hospitals the writer remembers that for a period of 14 years at least quinine sulphate has always been prescribed as such for its specific action, but, that in all stock mixtures in which quinine was mentioned in the Hospital Pharmacopœia cinchonidine sulphate was, by the direction of the staff, substituted. The results obtained in this recent investigation are certainly disconcerting. The following is a partial reprint of the article in the *Medical Journal of Australia*:

"The investigation was carried out in two large jails in Alipore. The observations have been made on adult male prisoners, in whose blood the malarial parasites have been found by microscopical examination. The patients were weighed and the dose administered was regulated by the weight of the body. The alkaloids were given in solution by the mouth. The drugs were administered every eight hours until nine doses were taken. Blood films were made at the time of administering each dose of medicine. The total number of fever patients examined has been 599, out of which 178, or 29·7 per cent., furnished positive evidence of malaria. Of these patients, 149 were kept under observation for the purpose of the investigation. The relative therapeutic value of the alkaloids was determined in the following order, hydroquinine being the most and quinoidine the least effective; hydroquinine hydrochloride, then cinchonine sulphate, quinine sulphate and quinidine sulphate of equal value, optochin hydrochloride, cinchonidine sulphate and quinoidine. As regards unpleasant effects, buzzing in the ears is most frequently associated with quinine and quinoidine, amblyopia with quinine and cinchonine, diarrhœa with cinchonine, if administered for more than a week, and nausea with cinchonidine."

* * *

"The author suggests certain improvements in the manufacture of quinine. These are the selection of a bark containing little or no tannin, the extraction of quinine for use as such, and to serve for the manufacture of hydroquinine, and the issue of the remaining alkaloids as residual alkaloids." S.P.

Perfumes, Natural and Synthetic.

(BY E. IVAN ROSENBLUM, M.SC.)

Abstract of paper delivered to the Society of Chemical Industry of Victoria, on April 28th, 1916.

While the improved habits of personal hygeine of our present civilisation have led to a less extensive use of the more powerful odoriferous principles, such as patchouli, they have also induced a keener appreciation of the more delicate products of the perfume industries, and the union of the essential oil from Nature's laboratory with the man-made synthetic has been of the greatest advantage to both branches of the trade.

Until very recently the Chemistry of Perfumes was the Chemistry of Essential oils, and though most of the synthetics which are the result of the last few years' development are either yielded by essential oils also, or analogous to essential oil products, the syntheses which stand out like landmarks—vanillin, heliotropin, coumarin, ionone, and artificial musk—are very definite stages in our knowledge of odorous substances, and now the aim of the synthetic perfumer is not only to match the odour of some natural oil, but also to synthesise new odorous substances, whose aroma can, to some extent, be foretold, and thus he comes in line with the therapeutist.

The leading position held by the French in this branch of industry has prevented the manufacture of synthetic perfumes from falling entirely into the hands of the Germans, though Britain, despite her enormous trade in toilet soap has not developed it to any extent. In Australia the manufacture of synthetics is a matter for the future, but with our wide range of climate, much of it sub-tropical, there should be scope for the growing of essential-oil yielding plants. At the experimental farm at Emerald, established six years ago by Bosisto and Co. for the study of exotic and endemic plants, good yields of lavender and geranium oils of satisfactory quality were obtained. Pepper-

mint was a failure, possibly through some deficiency in soil, or an unsuitable aspect.

The various Eucalypts do well, and extensive distillations have yielded a considerable quantity of the oil of Eucalyptus Macarthuri which has not yet been put on the market. Analysis of the bulk show it to contain 65% geranyl acetate and 10% of geraniol. It is interesting that a fine crop of Digitalis purpurea has just been harvested, and there are indications that it is more active than the imported drug.

Problems of the future include the study of the influence of artificial stimula of various kinds on the yield and quality of essential oils, a field almost untouched as yet, and one where the application of the methods of pure research to an industrial problem would seem to promise rich results.

Chemotherapy.

The Trend in Modern Therapeutics.

(*American Medicine*, Vol. X., No. 9, Pages 651-655.)

No careful student of present day researches in therapy can fail to note the growing interest in drugs of chemical origin. In spite of the great value of vaccines, serums, organic products and the other agencies for combating disease, it is evident that drugs still fill a most important place in the modern armamentarium. Chemotherapy, therefore, instead of being superseded by newer methods of treatment is not only holding its own, but, if the great interest being shown in drug investigations is any index, is more firmly entrenched than ever before.

To the majority of practitioners chemotherapy is a term of comparatively recent origin. While no doubt they have now and then encountered it in their medical reading it has probably failed to appeal to their interest because of the technical verbiage in which the subject has been enshrouded, and the fact that they have given so little thought to the nature and action of drugs. And yet there is no more fascinating field of study, none which more strongly grips the imagination, and none which promises to be so fruitful in practical results.

It is a fact, strange as it may seem, that years ago when clinicians first began to administer quinine in the treatment of malaria they were actually availing themselves of the principles of chemotherapy. But it required the genius of an Ehrlich, whose recent death has been an incalculable loss to medical science, to evolve a logical theory, and to demonstrate its soundness through animal experimentation and clinical observations of the human body.

It is most interesting to note that what first directed his attention to this subject was his discovery of the selective affinity of certain bacteria for some of the aniline dyes, especially methylene blue and eosin.

To Ehrlich's keen, inquiring, philosophical mind this affinity meant more than a mere staining reaction; it suggested therapeutic possibilities of vast significance. If, he argued, certain micro-organisms show an avidity for certain aniline and coal-tar colours, might it not be possible to discover substances of this character which because of such attraction would exert a specific destructive action upon pathogenic organisms when administered to animals and human beings? In other words, it became his aim to find something that would directly attack the invading parasite without inflicting any damage to the tissues of its host. His first investigations on a large scale were made upon the protozoa of sleeping sickness, the trypanosoma. After numerous chemical experiments two colours, trypan blue and trypan red, were prepared which seemed to meet the requirements: but unfortunately a difficulty arose. While the vast majority of the trypanosomes in an infected animal could be destroyed, a number survived, and these, strange to say, developed a resistance against the very agent which had been so fatal to most of their ancestors—an immunity which greatly militated against the ultimate success of the treatment.

Ehrlich's "Side-chain" Theory.

The wonderful "side-chain" theory, of which Ehrlich was the originator, enabled him, however, to pursue his researches on selective drug affinities, and from his observations he was led to assume that protozoal parasites presented several points of attack, and that by a bombardment with several parasiticides, a cross-fire, so to speak, they might be more effectively combated and eradicted. This, it seemed to him, could be accomplished by combinations

of amine and coal-tar dyes with arsenic, and finally after innumerable chemical experiments he found in atoxyl a more effective remedy than any previously tried. From the protozoan of sleeping sickness he now turned his attention to the spirillum of relapsing fever, an organism belonging to the same group, and later to the spirocheta of syphilis, also a protozoal parasite. Working indefatigably along this line of chemotherapy his labours were at last crowned by the discovery of salvarsan, which though not an absolute specific against the spirocheta pallida approaches more closely to being one than the mercurial preparations.

This is only a brief and sketchy account of the beginnings of scientific chemotherapy as established by Ehrlich. But, as already mentioned, this method of treatment has long been practised empirically by physicians — long, indeed, before the causative factors of the diseases in which it was employed were known—as witness the use of quinine and arsenic in malaria and mercury in syphilis. In this connection, it is interesting to note that the old Donovan solution, which formerly was so largely employed in the later stages of syphilis, contains both mercury and arsenic, and therefore represents an immature embodiment of the present combined salvarsan and mercurial therapy. The modern evolution of chemotherapy, however, is far removed from empiricism and is based upon painstaking scientific research in biological and chemical laboratories. Therefore, progress must necessarily be slow and hampered by many disappointments, for often the promising results of the laboratory investigator are not confirmed by clinical tests. This is strikingly shown by the chemotherapy of cancer, in the study of which Ehrlich was actively engaged at the time of his death. When Wassermann published his experiments with eosin-selenium on malignant growths, it seemed that we were at the dawn of a new era of treatment of cancer. The theory on which its action is based is plausible—selenium is supposed to have a selective affinity for cancer cells and eosin serves as a carrier and fixator—but it lacks the substantiation of clinical evidence, and the same applies to the colloidal copper and silver treatment. In view of the fact, however, that the etiology of carcinoma is still involved in considerable obscurity, this must in itself prove a decided obstacle to the discovery of a specific.

The future alone can show whether the scope of chemotherapy will be broadened to the extent that has been predicted. To judge from the results thus far obtained, however, it would seem that we have hardly passed the threshold of achievement in this field of research.

"The Study of Chemotherapy,"

said Ehrlich, "offers the greatest possibilities in therapeutics to-day." Having in mind the noteworthy successes that have been achieved in the fields of vaccine and serum therapy, organotherapy and mechanotherapy, to say nothing of psychotherapy and the other methods of treating disease, we are not quite ready to accept this dictum of even so great a thinker as Ehrlich. There can be no doubt, however, that chemistry, aided by the phenomenal advances made in the study of physiology and physiologic chemistry, has greatly added to our means of successfully coping with many diseases that only yesterday seemed all powerful.

It is a matter of special interest that the most promising recent discoveries have all been antiseptic or germicidal in their purpose and effect. Thus in respect to salvarsan, no extended reference need be made to this famous drug, but it was devised and worked out by Ehrlich to meet the need for a potent systematic antiseptic that would effectively destroy the most difficult of all organisms to annihilate when once lodged in the body. What marvellous results this drug has accomplished are matters of common knowledge. Though not a specific as a systemic antiseptic and occasionally productive of serious results, salvarsan is a triumph for chemotherapy. Its place in medicine is well established, and it is giving wonderful help in arresting both the immediate ravages and remote consequences of one of the most fearful of human diseases.

Tellurium.

Another drug of more recent discovery, but one that seems to hold great possibilities, is that which we had occasion to refer to last September, as evolved by J. T. Vinche Walker, the distinguished English chemist, who with Samuel Rideal, another English scientist, has given the scientific world the Rideal Walker test for anti-

septics. This new drug, which Walker has discovered, has been under critical clinical investigation by disinterested observers for many months. These investigations seem to justify the early expectations that this drug which is trimethylmethoxyphenol (a simpler name, "Trimethol," has been given it for convenience, just as salvarsan was chosen to serve in the place of dioxy-diaminoarsenobenzol) will be of remarkable value as an intestinal bactericide. Experiments of an exhaustive and painstaking character indicate that this product is a most potent germicide with a Rideal-Walker coefficiency of 40. Introduced into the intestinal canal it is forty times more efficient as a destroyer of germs than pure carbolic acid would be. Germicidal potency is the fundamental quality essential in an intestinal antiseptic, but what gives this new drug its exceptional value is its non-toxicity and the further fact that it is non-absorbable, passing through the canal without undergoing the slightest change. It is still too early to make any dogmatic statements in regard to the utility of this new drug as an intestinal germicide. It is certainly most promising, some remarkable results have been achieved with it, and it has certain qualities that no other drug possesses. Non-toxic and non-absorbable, no satisfactory explanation has thus far been found to account for its great germicidal action. This can be safely left for further research. The important question is, will this drug do all that it is hoped it will? Time and the test of clinical use under all conditions will alone tell. If it does "make good," as there is every reason to anticipate, its value will be almost unlimited. With the intestinal canal playing the part it does in the causation of so many diseases, the great need has been for an intestinal bactericide that would disinfect the canal and its contents, without the slightest toxic action. This need seems to be met by this new chemical product, and, if this is established, another triumph for chemotherapy will be recorded.

Importance of Chemotherapy.

Recent reports from the hospitals of France further attests to the important place chemotherapy is filling in wound treatment. Carrel has just announced some very gratifying results with a solution in which the chloride of calcium is an active ingredient. Still later, Kenneth Taylor reports that he has been able to control one of the most serious infections army surgeons are encountering, gas gangrene, and this with quinine.

Exceptional interest is attached to this report by Taylor on the conquest of gas gangrene with quinine. A few medical men have long known that quinine, particularly the bisulphate, was a potent antiseptic. The great majority, however, have been totally oblivious to the important fact that this widely employed drug is one of the most useful, effective and non-toxic germicides at the command of the profession. Nearly eight years ago, as a result of the Rideal-Walker test, quinine bisulphate was shown to have a carbolic coefficiency of 3.1! A drug with such disinfecting powers and so free from irritating and toxic action surely ought to have a wide field of utility. Very little gas gangrene is encountered in this country, but there are many other opportunities for the use of a drug having the qualities of quinine bisulphate, and it is more than probable that it will be found exceedingly valuable in many conditions that it would never have been used in but for Taylor's noteworthy investigations.

As stated, therefore, chemotherapy has been mainly concerned for some time with searches for safe and effective antiseptics, germicides and disinfectants, agents capable of killing the invading germs without injuring or inconveniencing the invaded tissues or body. To be sure, earlier studies brought many drugs into use that have been capable of influencing the various functions and processes of the body. These have all possessed more or less efficiency and some have been exceedingly useful. With all that has been accomplished, however, the fact still remains that no branches of medicine have been so sadly neglected as pharmacology and therapeutics.

Value of Research Work.

It is to be regretted that all this is true and that practically no provisions have been made in this country for just such work as Ehrlich devoted his life to. Some of our great institutions are doing a little work in therapeutic research, but what is needed is an institution like the George Speyer House for Experimental Chemotherapy which Ehrlich directed. It would take a large sum

[illegible] but we know of no way [illegible] philanthropists could do more for the world at large than to establish an institute for experimental therapeutic research. The discovery of one drug like salvarsan, or one intestinal germicide we have mentioned, would mean more to humanity than the mind can grasp. What returns such an investment would bring! Not in money, but in better, more definite results in the conflict with disease, in quicker relief from discomfort and distress, in prompter recoveries; in brief, in all the manifold advantages that would accrue to the human family from increasing ever so little our "mastery over disease!"

Abstracts.

Keeping Books.

Professional men are proverbially careless about their book-keeping, a condition doubtless the result of beginning business life after an education which has been more along theoretical than along practical lines. The pharmacist is not without practical training, but that training very seldom has fitted him for keeping his books in a systematic or even in a correct business way. They are too often kept in such a way that, were the druggist to step out and his partner to step in, the latter would have much difficulty in knowing who owed and who was owed. No druggist and no business man of any kind will ever regret installing and keeping up a proper set of books. The careful attention to this part of the business will save the annual losing of a certain number of enemies through causing customers to pay a second time, bills already settled. It will save loss through unavoidable careless mistakes. If you can't run your store here's your credit business in business order and present your bills promptly, have statements the first of every month, and [illegible] that debt credits mean long friendship.—*New York Spatula*, 10/6.

Latin in Prescriptions.

[illegible] prescriptions written in plain English read with [illegible] Melbourne the other day. A medical man wrote on a prescription [illegible] to take *hora somni*. The chemist had to take it to the [illegible] time." The chemist [illegible] sleeping draught [illegible] every hour, and [illegible] accordingly. When [illegible] the family did [illegible] after [illegible] As the patient had been in a very low state and was about due to leave the world, and as several members of the Doctors' Union gave evidence that the morphia was not enough to kill a man, the Coroner merely remarked that the chemist had been careless, and returned a verdict of misadventure. He might have made a few observations anent the absurdity of writing medical directions in a dead language, but he did not—perhaps because he is a member of the Doctors' Union himself.—*Bulletin*, 26/5/16.

The Infants' Food Question.

The Board of Health of Victoria have issued the regulations and standards for food and drugs under the powers conferred on it by the Health Acts. These regulations bear the date of April 12, 1916. A special section is devoted to infants' foods, and consists in a definition, instructions in regard to the labelling of the foods and certain restrictions. These new regulations do not differ essentially from those contained in the documents existing in other States. An infants' food is defined as a food described or sold as an article of food suitable for infants. It is not to contain any woody fibre, nor any mineral substance insoluble in acid, nor any preservative. All foods which, when prepared as directed, contain more than 1 per cent. of starch or do not conform approximately in proportional composition to human milk, must bear a bold, legible label, that it is not to be given to infants under the age of six months, except under medical direction. It is specified that the foods must contain approximately the same proportional quantity of protein, fat and lactose as human milk.

The object of food standards and regulations is to prevent the sale of noxious substances for human consumption, and to safeguard the public from incorrect labelling, so that when any article is bought, the purchaser may acquire the article he requires. It is obvious that the prohibition of insoluble or harmful ingredients in infants' foods is very desirable, but the authority should not impose restrictions to the sale of foods which in practice have proved to be of value. The attempt to set up a standard for proteins, fat and sugar on the basis of the equivalent content of human milk is impracticable, unless the authority is prepared to recognise that the variations of these constituents in mother's milk are much wider than are usually held. The investigations of Dr. Wardlaw and Dr. Chapman demonstrate that the variations are so wide as to be useless for the purpose of standardising. The regulations of the Victorian Board of Health, however, do not define the normal proportions of the protein, fat and sugar of human milk.—*Med. Jour. Aust.*, 20/5/16.

Blackfellows' Bread.

As reference has occasionally been made in recent notes to this interesting substance, it seems desirable, writes Dr. Sidney Plowman, of Brisbane, that some further detailed information concerning it should be recorded. First, as to weight of specimens. It is stated in Nature Notes of April 7 that for them to attain a weight

of 12 lb. is not a rare occurrence. The heaviest specimen yet unearthed is one which was sent in 1884 by the late A. P. Miller, pharmaceutical chemist, of Hobart, to the British Pharmaceutical Conference, of which I was then honorary secretary. I personally weighed it, and it turned the scale at 37 lb. The specimen is now in the museum of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain. The late Mr. Southall, F.L.S., read a paper upon this particular sample before a meeting of the conference in 1884. The plant is catalogued in 'Hooker's Botany of the Voyage of the Beagle,' where it is described under the name of Mylitta Australis, Berkeley. More recently it was given the name of Notihydnum Australe, by the late Baron von Mueller. Mr. Berkeley considered 'native bread' to be an ally of the true truffles. Like truffles, it is found underground, and 'on dry open hills it may be detected by the ground bursting upwards with something underneath, which is this fungus' (Backhouse). Mr. Southall concludes that 'the plant may be considered to be the mycelium (spawn) or sclerotioid mycelium of a fungus of which the other stages of growth have never been observed.' As far as I know, no further stages of growth have been noted since 1884."—*Argus*, 25/4/16.

[Dr. Plowman informs us that since writing the above Professor Ewart has informed him that after many experiments he succeeded in obtaining the so-called fructification of the plant. This assumes a mushroom like form, but the under surface of the pileus does not possess gills, but pits or tubes in which the spores or gonidia are developed. It was found that exposure to light was the chief factor concerned in the fructification. Professor Ewart kindly showed to the writer two specimens each showing fructification, or perhaps, in more correct language, a large gonidiophore. They are now in the Botanical Museum of the Melbourne University.—Ed., "A.J.P."]

A New Intestinal Antiseptic.

In a paper recently read to the members of the Connecticut Medical Society, Dr. J. T. Ainslie Walker brought forward a new intestinal antiseptic which, he claims, is really effective. Countless excellent antiseptics have been employed in the past for the purpose of lessening the putrefactive processes that occur normally in the intestine, and when unduly free produce symptoms of disease. To mention only a few out of many, Calomel, mercuric sulphide, salol, resorcin, various bismuth salts, beta-napthol, and naphthalene tetrachloride have all had their vogue as intestinal antiseptics, and all have proved failures in the hands of the great majority of medical practitioners. As a result of this, we have seen other methods of lessening intestinal sepsis recommended and practised, notably the use of lactic acid bacillus advocated by Metchnikoff, and the more drastic surgical procedures of Sir Arbuthnot Lane. The new drug so strongly recommended as an intestinal disinfectant by Dr. Walker is a benzene derivative, 1-2-4-5-6- trimethylmethoxyphenol, with the formula $C_6H(CH_3)_3(OCH_3)OH$. He does not mention how it is formed or where it may be obtained. It is administered by the mouth in the form of 2½ minim gelatine capsules containing a 50 per cent. admixture of the drug with a vegetable base, and alternatively as a syrup for infants and children unable to take the capsules. A 50 per cent. gelatine emulsion of the drug is known for short as "Trimethol." It is stated to have a Rideal-Walker co-efficient of 20, or in other words to be twenty times more efficient than pure phenol as a germicide, and is not, it is said, decomposed in its passage through the alimentary tract, and is excreted unchanged in the faeces. It appears from the cases quoted by Dr. Walker that up to twenty of the capsules of trimethol described above may be given to an adult daily; offensive diarrhoea, enteritis, ulcerative enteritis, mucous colitis, and ulcerative non-amoebic dysentry are mentioned among the intestinal disorders in which the new drug proved strikingly effective.

As every medical man knows, intestinal sepsis is nowadays credited with being the "fons et origo" of many diseases that may at first sight appear to have little connection with it—rheumatoid arthritis, for example, and pernicious anaemia. Dr. Walker certainly makes out a good case for the further trial of trimethol in both acute and chronic septic disorders of the intestine.—*British Medical Journal.*

British News.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Recruiting Difficulties.

Pharmacists have been placed in a very awkward position regarding their obligations as citizens during the present war crisis. Originally it was intended to place them on the reserved list as being engaged in an occupation which necessitated their remaining at home. In the meantime a large number of pharmacists and assistants voluntarily enlisted, and no action could be taken in regard to these. With this voluntary depletion of the pharmaceutical ranks the necessity of ensuring an adequate supply of dispensers under the National Health Insurance Scheme became more urgent, and the Government under pressure agreed to exempt those who were engaged in this class of work. In connection with this matter, Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, delivered in the House of Commons on March 16 a scathing indictment of the policy of tampering with the conditions under which thousands of men in reserved occupations voluntarily came forward for enlistment. Mr. Glyn-Jones pointed out that pharmacists and dispensing chemists were in a "reserved" occupation. After a definite announcement of the Government, he advised married pharmacists and dispensing chemists that they should attest, because the Government had said that theirs was a certified occupation, and therefore they could not be called up for service. The tribunal which had the help of the Insurance Commissioners had so decided; they said that the married men need not attest

reserved [illegible] Those men were now required to go before the Tribunal and to run the gauntlet in the ordinary way therefore it was meant to see that the Government kept their bargain. Mr Walter Long, replying on behalf of the Government, said that the reserved list was now being cut down considerably. He was however, very sympathetic to the appeal made by Mr Glyn-Jones, and promised to remedy the grievance if Lord Kitchener gave his consent. The procedure in the case of pharmacists who have attested is that they have the right to go before the Appeal Tribunal and obtain a certificate of exemption from being called up for military service. Judging from the appeals which have already come before this Tribunal, the general policy seems to be to grant an exemption in the case of the master pharmacists, but so far as his assistants are concerned very few exemptions have been allowed. In some cases, where it has been shown that it is almost impossible to carry on without an assistant a temporary exemption for a short period has been granted. Certainly the Health Insurance Commissioners of England have done their utmost to prevent the depletion of the pharmaceutical service, but even with this consideration panel pharmacists find it extremely difficult to carry out their contracts owing to the great shortage of assistants. It is quite clear that if ordinary pharmacists are compelled to close up altogether owing to their owners being called up, as has been the case in some instances, greater work will be thrown on the panel pharmacists. Faced with this fact the Commissioners have expressed the opinion that "full weight should be given to the necessity for maintaining a supply of medicines for the sick, not only among insured persons, but also among the civil population." All applications for exemption made by a pharmacist will therefore be dealt with on their merits, taking into account the Health Insurance needs, and giving full consideration to this aspect of the case. The problem has been a very difficult one to deal with, and considerable praise is due to the Pharmaceutical Society for the able and efficient manner in which the situation has been handled.

The Bayer Co. Ltd.

A curious question was asked in the House of Commons by Sir John Lonsdale on March 15, when the President of the Board of Trade was pressed for information regarding the enemy-owned firm of Bayer and Co. Ltd. Sir John Lonsdale asked whether this company was still carrying on business in Great Britain with offices in London, Manchester and other places; if he was aware that at a new warehouse erected in Manchester the name of Bayer and Co on the windows had disappeared, and B & Co. had been substituted; that circulars were being issued claiming that the concern was a British company; that the entire capital with the exception of 24 £10 shares was held by Germans resident in Germany, and that the parent company, the Farbenfabriken and Vorm Fr Bayer and Co., which held £901,2 of the £1000 shares of the Bayer Co, was engaged in making poisonous gases and high explosives for the German army. Mr Runciman, in reply, said that the matter was now under the consideration of the Advisory Committee, and when he received a report from that body he would decide whether an order should be made requiring the business to be wound up.

Venereal Diseases.

The Royal Commission on Venereal Diseases, appointed in November, 1913, to make full inquiry into the prevalence, effect on public health, and means of alleviation or prevention of such diseases, has issued its final report. The report makes some unexpected revelations. The prevalence of venereal diseases and of their effects upon race and individual are proved to be grave and far-reaching. The committee finds that syphilis is far more prevalent and gonorrhœa much more serious in its effects than had been supposed, but it is stated that by early and efficient treatment, both diseases may be controlled and reduced within narrow limits. A natural tendency towards concealment of the fact of infection, especially in the early stages of disease, is acknowledged as a hindrance to successfully combatting the disease. This is to be deplored, as it is just then that the chances of successful treatment are greatest. Syphilis may be cured. The chief essential consists in the destruction of the spirochætes while the infection is still only local, that is, before the organisms enter the blood stream. Failing this, a complete cure is still possible if the spirochætes can be killed off before they have had time to colonise in organs or tissues. For curative purposes, efficient medical treatment by means of mercury, the much more powerful arseno-benzol compounds, or a combination of both arsenic and mercury, known as intensive treatment, is recommended. With increased knowledge and wide experience of intravenous injection of Salvarsan and neo-Salvarsan, serious complications and fatal results have become extraordinarily infrequent, when the enormous number of people who have received this treatment is taken into consideration. It is now the generally recognised mode of treatment of syphilis, and in the hands of a well-trained medical practitioner is a safe remedy, provided all the details of technique are carefully followed. The accidents which have occurred, when not caused by faulty technique, have been usually due to carelessness in not ascertaining whether there was any disease of the patient which contra-indicated the employment of the drug. A number of arsenical preparations are now available for purposes of treatment. The most important of these are Kharsivan and neo-Kharsivan, which are chemically identical with Salvarsan and neo-Salvarsan, and are the preparations of an English firm, and arseno-benzol Billon, and novarseno-benzol Billon, which are the same products prepared by a French firm; another French substitute, Galyl, a compound of arsenic and phosphorus, has recently come into prominence, and its use has been attended with considerable success. The measures taken to safeguard the preparation of these substances are said to be satisfactory. The details of the work were entrusted to the most competent pharmacological workers, who took as a basis for the biological control, supplementing

the chemical tests of the manufacturer, the methods and standards which had previously been found adequate in Ehrlich's Institute. These tests have been regularly applied, and at an early date the experimental work which was done showed that the problem of successful manufacture had been solved. This has been confirmed by clinical reports of medical officers in various hospitals. Medical treatment is, however, useless without the help of the person affected. In all cases success must largely depend upon the intelligent and loyal co-operation of the patient. Ignorance regarding the infectivity of syphilis is largely responsible for its spread, and patients should be warned of the danger of infecting innocent persons, and especially women, by whom the disease may be transmitted to their offspring. This vitally important object may be secured by issuing a card of instructions to every patient suffering from syphilis. We are strongly of opinion that the moral obligation should be urged upon all doctors who treat the disease in institutions or privately, to hand these cards, which should be provided at the public expense, to their patients. Similar cards of instruction, it is recommended, should be handed to patients suffering from gonorrhœa. In reference to the latter disease, pharmacists are mentioned without comment, under the heading of "The existing facilitis for diagnosis and treatment and their deficiencies," in a paragraph which reads, "pharmaceutical chemists, chemists and druggists, or unqualified persons." A serious allegation which will be resented as wholly untrue of most pharmacists is subsequently made in a page and a half devoted to treatment by unqualified persons. "The fear of disgrace and the consequent desire for concealment necessarily render the sufferer specially liable to attempt self-treatment or to entrust his treatment to persons who are in no way qualified to deal with the disease. This appears to be true of all sections of the community, and we are informed that the upper classes resort to quacks as readily as the poor. The unqualified person, however, trades not only on the desire of his clients for secrecy, but also on their credulity and upon their ignorance of the seriousness of their disease. Unqualified practice exists in several forms; many chemists prescribe for these diseases; in some parts of the country herbalists are resorted to, while attractive advertisements of remedies by persons who claim to be specialists in venereal diseases are common in certain newspapers." The evidence of a representative of the National Association of Herbalists, which was taken, is said to have spoken for itself in effectually disposing of the claims of herbalists to be regarded as competent to treat venereal diseases. "Whilst some comparisons are peculiarly odious," says the *Pharmaceutical Journal*, in its editorial review of the report, "it seems decidedly unfair that pharmacists who, by a general statement, are accused of making common malpractice with such persons, were not even given equal opportunity of tendering representative evidence. It must, therefore, immediately be stated here that just as no doctor worthy of the name refuses to treat a patient suffering from venereal disease, so may it emphatically be stated that no reputable pharmacist would be so cynical or mean as to pretend an ability successfully to treat such cases. That many pharmacists do sell quack or more reputable preparations on demand, well knowing for what purpose they are intended, may be regretfully, but without shame, admitted. But this is quite another matter, in which more hesitation to interfere with self-treatment is naturally felt than in ordinary sales of patent medicines, a difficult question enough in any case. Possibly the Commissioners realised something of this point of view, and consequently hesitated to bring pharmacists formally to trial. For the report goes on immediately to record a strong endorsement of the recommendations of the Select Committee on Patent Medicines that all advertisements of remedies for venereal diseases should be prohibited. 'The direct and indirect effects of these diseases upon the race are so grave and the deception practised upon the public is so extensive as, in our opinion, to justify repressive measures. We should have advocated legal provisions making the treatment of venereal diseases by unqualified persons a penal offence, but we recognise the practical difficulties in securing the effective operation of such a law in present circumstances. The prohibition of advertisements is open to much less objection on this ground, and we believe that it would go far to remedy the great evils which have been emphasised by the evidence before us.'" The summary of recommendations and general conclusions of the Commissioners are of national interest, and should be generally read.

General.

Mr. G. T. W. Newsholme, who died at Sheffield on February 29, aged 64, was a very keen worker in the interests of pharmacy. For six years he occupied the positions of Vice-President and President respectively of the Pharmaceutical Society. He was a keen organiser, and did a great deal to infuse activity into the administrative side of official pharmacy during his presidential term.

Six o'Clock Closing of pharmacists has become an accomplished fact at Newcastle-on-Tyne, not because the chemists want it, but on account of the severe lighting restrictions.

Retail Uniform Prices.—The Hull chemists recently held a meeting to discuss a paper on "Uniformity in Charging," by W. Spilman, who urged that concerted action be taken to prevent pharmacists being exploited by large advertisers, who forced them to handle lines on which there was only 1d. or 2d. profit. A strong committee was formed to deal with the matter.

Irish Pharmacy is represented, according to the latest figures, by 082 pharmaceutical chemists, 161 chemists and druggists, 612 registered druggists, and 158 assistants. The Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland consists of 315 full members and 23 associates.

Increased Prices.—Not only are pharmacists faced with excessively high prices for drugs, but dispensing bottles have also become scarce and dear. White demy has doubled in price. Syrups and spirituous preparations have advanced owing

to the scarcity of sugar and the commandeering of the spirit distillers. Boxes, labels, containers, wax, etc., are all correspondingly dearer. Under these conditions it is not to be wondered at that pharmacists have found it necessary to revise their dispensing charges.

Proprietaries on Prescriptions.—Mr. Geo. W. Beale, Ph.C., in the *British and Colonial Pharmacist* for April states that on analysing 25,500 prescriptions he found that 5480 proprietaries were ordered, which involved the stocking of nearly 1000 different specialties for dispensing purposes alone. Allowing for possible errors, he deduces the fact that 20 per cent. of current prescriptions contain a proprietary preparation.

Dispensing Rate per Hour.—At Bradford on March 1st the local pharmacists discussed the rate allowed for dispensing under the National Health Insurance scheme, viz., 2/- per hour. This was considered too low. If pharmacists could dispense at their own time, instead of most of the work being crowded into the evening, it might be fair enough. The opinion was that 4/- per hour was little enough remuneration for the services rendered.

American Notes.

DEFINITION OF A WHOLESALER.

The United States Circuit Court of Appeals has decided that a "wholesaler" is one who buys in comparatively large quantities, and who sells usually in smaller quantities, but never to the ultimate consumer of an individual unit. He sells either to a "jobber," who is a sort of middleman, or to a "retailer," who sells to the actual consumer. The quantities bought by a wholesaler may vary from a fraction of a carload to many carloads. It is the character of the selling, not of the buying, that stamps a man as a wholesaler.

NUMBER OF AMERICAN PHARMACIES.

According to the *Pharmaceutical Era* there are 58,000 drug stores in the United States, and 150,000 physicians. Wholesale houses number 280, and wholesaling is carried on by retail druggists, manufacturers, etc. These figures indicate that there are 2000 retail stores for each drug store, 535 drug stores for every wholesaler, and three physicians for every drug store.

PRICE MAINTENANCE.

The United States Chamber of Commerce recently appointed a committee to investigate the question of price maintenance. The report of the committee, which has just been published, states that the members favoured legislation permitting price maintenance, whilst three reported that they were ready to approve of the principle as being to the public interest. The majority report states that "a large volume of opinion, from the president of a big departmental store and the president of the New York Retail Dry Goods Association. The majority report states that "a properly regulated system of price maintenance serves to prevent monopolistic control of production, and in some businesses is the sole guarantee of the preservation of the accepted system of distribution." Attention is also drawn to the fact that the agitation in favour of a legalised system of price protection originated with the small independent retailers and that the greatest opposition comes from large and powerful concerns. The committee believes that in the long run the public interest will be best conserved by specific legislation definitely authorising this method of regulating business. In view of the diversity of opinion on the subject, it has been decided to submit the question to a referendum, the result of which will be awaited with interest.

THE RELATIONS OF PHYSICIANS AND PHARMACISTS.

Dr. James H. Beal recently read a paper before the American Pharmaceutical Association, entitled, "Desirable Legislation as an Aid to Maintain Pharmacy." In the course of his address, the lecturer made some interesting observations on the relationship which should exist between physicians and pharmacists. Dr. Beal said that the only logical ground upon which the State could impose restrictions upon the practice of pharmacy was the necessity of protecting the public health and general welfare, and not the pharmacist's private interests. The pharmacist's demand, then, was not that the State should provide him with the means of livelihood, but that he should not be discriminated against by the granting of special privileges and immunities to his competitors. He asked nothing more than the fair requirement that the same test should be imposed upon all who sought to perform the same functions. It was easy enough to say that the inhabitants of sparsely-settled districts were as much entitled to the best medical attendance and dispensing service as those who dwelt in the cities, but, since it was confessedly impossible for them to obtain such services, they must be given the opportunity to provide themselves with the next best services obtainable. It would be a fine thing for the physician if no one could obtain a dose of medicine without his order, and a fine thing for the pharmacist if he could have an absolute monopoly in supplying those doses. This was unattainable at present. It was useless to argue against the logic of circumstance. Physicians who practised in country districts must be permitted to carry their own medicines with them; the people who lived in communities distant from a drug store must have the privilege of satisfying their wants for simple drugs and package-remedies at the nearby general store, and these privileges must continue until the State was ready to assume responsibility, and supply the requisite medicine and medical attendance. Not only must the physician be accorded a reasonable liberty of dispensing, but he must be ready to accord to pharmacist like reasonable liberty, and not threaten him with a Medical Practice Act for recommending simple cures for simple ailments. There was a time in medicine where the functions of physician and pharmacist had always overlapped, and always would overlap,

regardless of codes and formal resolutions. Just where the division should come between the respective functions of physician and pharmacist was a matter of dispute, and the line was likely to shift with the interests and prejudices of the disputants. One way of settling this dispute was for each profession to strive to set the boundary line as far over into the territory of the other as possible, in which case the side having the best politicians would probably obtain the most advantage, and this was the method to which physicians and pharmacists had been accustomed to settle their differences in the past. It might sound like a paradox, but it was nevertheless true that physicians and pharmacists quarrelled most when they remained separate, and agreed best when they came together. When they met in good faith and discussed their differences with open minds, many of the supposed grievances disappeared, others were removed by explanations, and some fair ground for compromise could nearly always be found upon points concerning which exact agreement could not be had. The rational way, then, for pharmacists and physicians to determine their respective boundary lines was by mutual agreement between the representatives of their respective associations.

SPURIOUS ACETYLSALICYLIC ACID TABLETS IN CHICAGO.

According to the *American Druggist*, the prevailing high price for acetylsalicylic acid has had the effect of producing fraudulent substitutes. The City Health Commissioner of Chicago has recently caused a general purchase of these tablets to be made by Pure Food and Drugs Law inspectors from 127 drug stores in that city. None of these were found to consist of a mixture of salicylic acid and acetylsalicylic acid and were decidedly short in weight. Twenty-two samples were spurious, containing no acetylsalicylic acid at all, but being composed of sugar, starch, phosphates, and other substances. It seems also to have been proved that in some instances spurious aspirin had been introduced into containers of the genuine drug. The authorities are tracing the spurious articles to their sources, when doubtless prosecutions will follow. It is said that previous to this a consignment to Chicago of 100,000 tablets, and 25 pounds of spurious aspirin had been confiscated. In a second subsequent series of 130 purchases a much better state of things was found. On this occasion 98 per cent. of the samples of tablets were found to be correct as to contents.

Births & Deaths.

DEATHS.

MOWAT.—On the 16th May, at his residence, 163 Bay Street, Port Melbourne, John, the dearly beloved husband of Mary, beloved father of Mary and David Mowat, and step-father of Ebenezer C. McClelland, aged 55 years.

Killed in Action.

LAURENCE.—May 2nd, Herbert Richey, eldest surviving son of T. A. and Alice Laurence, 97 Sydney Road, Brunswick.

"For King and Country."

Optical.

Military Optical Instruments.

(Paper read by Mr. H. H. Baker, F.S.M.C., before the Victorian Optical Association, on 1st May, 1916.)

It has been frequently remarked that warfare between modern civilised nations depends much more largely for its success upon brain power, as shown in the intelligent use of machinery and instruments, and the application of scientific discovery, than it does upon muscle and sinew. To defeat Napoleon's armies with all their valour and heroism, armed and equipped in the manner of his times would be a very simple proposition to a much smaller force provided with modern weapons. It is obvious, therefore, that if a nation is to be prepared at all times to resist with all its might the advances of a powerful foe, advantage must be taken of every opportunity to utilise scientific invention for military purposes. In older countries this has, to a larger extent, been accomplished; but in our own country where, until recently, the peaceful surroundings have almost banished serious preparation for war, we have been for the most part content to adopt such ideas and inventions as the ingenuity of the larger nations have provided for themselves, and incidentally for us.

The entry of Australia into the present war should tend to correct this attitude, and a definite organisation whereby an interchange of ideas between scientific men, makers, and designers of instruments, and military men, may be obtained should surely be established at an early date.

It is impossible in one lecture to deal fully and intelligibly with all the various optical instruments which are being used for military purposes. In addition to the ordinary telescope and binocular glasses for observation purposes, these include range finders, periscopes (both land and marine), artillery directors, prismatic compasses, field sketching instruments, etc. I propose, therefore, on this occasion to confine my remarks to a description of the principles employed in the construction and use of periscopes and range finders.

THE PERISCOPE.

It is perhaps not generally known that the periscope, which is being so extensively used in the trenches, and in an improved form, in submarines, was invented nearly 300 years ago by Johann Hevelius, of Dantzig, a man whose activities were considerable as astronomer, brewer, and town councillor. It is an optical instrument devised to enable one to see without being seen, and its construction and properties can be easily understood. It consists primarily of two mirrors, mounted one above the other, and placed at such angles that the upper one will receive horizontal

rays [illegible] reflect from [illegible] which again reflects them horizontally to the eye of the observer. The mirrors are usually mounted in a tube or casing, [illegible] it is advantageous to exclude extraneous light in this manner, it is not absolutely necessary. Periscopes attached to rifles or other [illegible] answering the purpose very satisfactorily.

In constructing a periscope, the following factors should be borne in mind:—1. Portability; 2. [illegible]; 3. sufficient length to provide protection to the observer; 4. angle of view; 5. quality of mirrors.

As regards (1) portability, most patterns are made either to telescope, fold up, or collapse, so as not to unduly increase the soldier's kit. The periscope required by a man in a trench would naturally be smaller than that used by an artilleryman a few miles distant from the enemy. In the latter instance, it is desirable to have a large pattern that can be used in conjunction with a pair of field glasses.

2. The ingenuity of the individual using the periscope is exercised in making his periscope as unobtrusive as possible: daubs of clay to hide its rectilineal outline, and attachments of grass, twigs, &c., often being resorted to so that it shall not readily attract the attention of the enemy's sharpshooters.

3. An insufficiency in the length of the periscope is liable to prove a source of danger to the user, especially in trenches where loose soil is banked on the front parapet. In such a case, an observer with a short periscope would be in considerable danger of receiving a bullet through the loose soil. It is, however, now believed, the practice to pave the soil from the trench on the back parapet—in which case one can with safety employ a shorter periscope. In the early days of the war, the British War Office insisted upon a length of at least 24 inches. At the present time periscopes with a length of 18 inches, or even less, are used in considerable numbers.

4. The angle of view included by the periscope depends upon the size of the upper mirror, and the length of the periscope: the smaller the mirror and the greater the length, the less will be the field included. While it is an advantage to have a wide field of view where possible, there is much to be said for the smaller periscopes, which do not offer so good a mark for the enemy, and can be readily turned so as to sweep the horizon. A good binocular glass does not generally include an angle of more than 6 degrees, and a tubular periscope of 2 inches in diameter and 18 inches length will include about the same field.

5. The mirrors should be of selected plate glass, free from striæ or imperfections of any kind, and in addition to the usual cover to the silvering should be coated with a waterproof varnish so that they will not be affected by damp.

The metal parts of the periscope should have no iron in their construction as the instrument is frequently required to be used in conjunction with the compass for making a map of the surrounding country, and iron, or tin (tinned sheet iron) is liable to cause errors in the records so made. In the better class of periscopes, brass is almost universally employed.

A frank declaration as to the great value of the periscope in trench warfare was made by General Anderson, in addressing the Canadian division, prior to their first occupation of the line of trenches. The General said: "Do not expose your heads, and do not look round corners, unless for a purpose which is necessary at the moment you do it. It will not often be necessary. *You are provided with the means of observing the enemy without exposing your heads.* To lose your life without military necessity is to deprive the State of good soldiers. Young and brave men enjoy taking risks; but a soldier who takes unnecessary risks through levity is not playing the game, and the man who does so is stupid, for whatever be the average practice of the German army, the individual shots, whom they employ as snipers, shoot straight, and, screened from observation behind the lines, they are always watching."

(To be continued.)

Dispensaries and Hospitals.

Application for a Wages Board.

An application has been received by the Victorian Minister of Labor from dispensers employed in hospitals and friendly society dispensaries for the creation of a Wages Board. The application, it is stated, is supported by a petition signed by a large majority of the persons likely to be affected. Sir Alexander Peacock has given directions that figures showing the present rates of pay of the employees and their hours of work shall be secured, so that he may examine them with a view to deciding whether a wages board is necessary. He has informed the leaders of the movement that he will make known his decision in due course.

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THE WAR.

Pharmacists in the various States are earnestly requested to communicate to the Editor from time to time all information of interest with regard to themselves or their Assistants who are on active service with the Naval or Military Forces. Such information is carefully indexed and preserved, with a view to publication as opportunity offers.

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Editorial.

MISREADING A PRESCRIPTION.

A full report of the Coroner's inquest touching the death of Edwin Standley appears in this issue, and will be read with considerable interest by pharmacists throughout Australia.

The circumstances surrounding the case are unique, and may never occur again. A doctor ordered a patient a morphia sleeping draught, and wrote on the prescription the directions, "Hora somni." This prescription was taken to a pharmacist by the patient's sister, who was naturally agitated at the time, and who asked that the medicine might be made up at once. To oblige her, the pharmacist, who was without an assistant, put aside other prescriptions, and treated the case as an urgent one. In his anxiety to avoid delay, he misread the directions as "Hora omni," and labelled the draught—"A tablespoonful every hour." In the rush of work at the time (7.30 p.m.), he omitted to enter the prescription in the prescription book, intending to do it later. Miss Standley took the medicine and the prescription away, and gave her brother three doses, notwithstanding that the doctor in charge of the case stated that he warned her to be careful and only give one dose that evening. Four hours after the third dose was given the patient died. The post mortem disclosed that he was suffering from a diseased heart and kidneys, an enlarged spleen, and was generally in a weak and emaciated condition. According to the medical evidence, death was accelerated by the medicine. The Coroner returned a verdict of death by misadventure. He severely censured the chemist, but found that the mistake did not amount to felonious neglect of such a degree as to warrant him recording a verdict of manslaughter.

Coming so soon after the Waubra poisoning fatality, the case caused some disquietude in official circles. Yet, dispassionately viewed, there is much to be said for the pharmacist. In the first place, actuated by a humane desire to alleviate the distress of an anxious young woman, who was concerned at her brother's suffering, and naturally was desirous of taking the medicine to him with the least possible delay, he put aside other work, and at once set about dispensing the urgent prescription. The state of hurry induced under the circumstances led to two results: (1) The prescription was not, perhaps, scrutinised as closely as it should have been, and (2) it was not entered in the prescription book.

Dealing with the prescription first, it might be pointed out that the writing was small, and that the "s" in somni was not written as clearly as it might have been. Examined critically after the sad occurrence, experts rightly agreed there was no reason why it should not have been inter-

jected as often [illegible]. This is true enough in the light of subsequent events. But the pharmacist examined it twice before delivering the medicine, and the conclusion he came to was that "hora omni" was meant. His view was strengthened by his statement (substantiated by other pharmacists interviewed after the inquest) that it is not uncommon for prescribers to write "hora omni" instead of "omni hora" the correct way.

But although the first lapse may have been possibly a justifiable error of judgment, the neglect to enter the prescription in the book naturally could not be overlooked by the coroner. Usage and custom have enforced the use of the prescription book for the pharmacists' safety and protection. No legal enactment compels its use, but by universal consent its absolute necessity is as unquestioned as the fundamental principles of Euclid. It is all that the pharmacist has to protect himself. The prescription itself is handed back to the patient, the prescriber rarely keeps a copy, and unless each prescription is accurately and minutely recorded in logical sequence the pharmacist is bound to find himself face to face with serious trouble sooner or later.

There is also another important function which the prescription book plays. It is a check on the pharmacist's finished work. Rightly, the coroner emphasised this point. He referred also to the rarity of mistakes in dispensing. He might with equal truth have alluded to the value of the prescription book in bringing about such a fortunate state of affairs. The most experienced and careful pharmacist may commit an error of judgment at times in the reading or dispensing of a prescription, but if he does he invariably detects the mistake when he quietly checks and revises his work as he enters the prescription in the book. His mind automatically says, "Here is the danger signal. At this point any error should become manifest. If I fail now to observe it, and it is serious, only good fortune can rescue me from the consequences."

It was the neglect to enter the prescription in the book which aroused the coroner's displeasure. Under all the circumstances, the pharmacist may regard himself as extremely fortunate that the case did not go any further.

The Month.

Compulsory Service.

In view of the possible adoption of compulsory military service in Australia, the various official bodies connected with pharmacy are closely watching the situation, and representations have already been made in certain quarters with a view of preventing the complete disorganization of the pharmaceutical services of the community should a general conscription policy be adopted. There is very little likelihood of pharmacists being included in the general division, as already the principle has been adopted that no qualified pharmacist is allowed to leave the Commonwealth as a fighting unit. The military authorities recognise that the pharmacist's proper place is with the A.M.C., performing those duties for which he has been specially trained. It is also admitted that the claims of the community to an adequate pharmaceutical service cannot be overlooked in dealing with this matter. Palliative measures, which would involve tampering with the curriculum or with the principles of any of the Pharmacy Acts, should be strongly opposed, as such expedients, if resorted to, would be likely to seriously prejudice the future of pharmacy for many years to come.

Nationalisation of Medicine.

The Interstate Trades Union Congress, held at Hobart on May 15, and following days, discussed a number of social reforms, among which was the following recommendation from the Adelaide Labour Council:

> The nationalisation, with a democratic control, of the medical, dental, chemistry profession, and all 'friendly' societies.

This resolution goes a good deal further than the much-talked-of scheme of National Health Insurance. Post-war problems are bound to be followed by a tendency towards social experiments. Nationalisation of medicine has always been a strong plank in the Labour platform, and if the financial difficulties can be overcome it is likely that a strong attempt will be made to bring it about when the war is concluded. Pharmacists cannot afford to disregard the movement, and in common with the other bodies affected will require to keep a close watch on any developments in this direction which may occur.

Expense Ratios.

Some months ago a Government accountant investigated the lowest percentage of profit which the average grocery business had to secure to avoid selling goods at a loss. The investigation showed that for an article costing 1s. the minimum selling price must be 1s. 2½d., and that 17½ per cent. must be added to the prime cost of goods in order to cover ordinary running expenses incidental to the grocery business. It would certainly be an advantage if the net cost of conducting an average pharmacy were established on some such definite basis. Inquiries made two or three years ago indicated that the percentage cost varied from 20 to 33 1-3, according to the nature of the business, locality, etc. Since then everything has abnormally increased in price. Several pharmacists have told us that if they come out without an actual loss this year they will consider themselves lucky. But is this as it should be? If grocers are now realising that they have been too liberal to the public in the past, what should be the position of pharmacists? One thing is certain, every pharmacist should be in a position to know what amount he should add to invoice cost of goods to secure a living profit. The total gain at the end of the year is the thing to be aimed at. Only by accurately pricing each article can a successful result in this connection be assured. All items of expense, including interest on capital, and customers' accounts, proprietor's salary, etc., should be carefully tabulated and analysed at various periods. The expense ratio can then be ascertained, and adjustments in prices made accordingly. Without some such system, pricing must necessarily be haphazard — a result which, especially at the present time, should be avoided as far as possible.

Lodge Practice and the War.

At the April meeting of the Victorian Branch of the British Medical Association, Dr. David Rosenberg moved a resolution in favour of a referendum on the question of re-opening negotiations with the Friendly Societies, with a view of securing the adoption of the Model Lodge Agreement. The motion was lost by 54 votes to 4, the concensus of opinion being in favour of preserving the *in statu quo* until the termination of the war. During the debate Dr. Rosenberg mentioned that drugs had increased so greatly in price that the lodges in Richmond had found that they could not run their dispensary at 1/8 per quarter per member as formerly, and had, therefore, found it necessary to make a levy of an extra 4d. per member per quarter to meet the extra expenditure.

Avoid Being Hustled.

Earlier closing, by restricting business to more limited hours, has had one not unexpected effect: it has brought about an increase in prescription work between 7 and 8 o'clock in the evening. Under normal conditions arrangements can generally be made to cope with this, but, with the present scarcity of assistants considerable stress is often caused, and, in the desire to get through the work, there is a disposition on the part of the perplexed pharmacist to hurry his dispensing in order that his clients may not be unduly kept waiting. "Speeding up" may be alright in other callings, but in pharmacy it is a very dangerous practice and is likely to lead to errors. The public must be taught to realise that pharmacists are engaged in responsible work demanding unremitting care and attention. They are handling dangerous drugs and poisons, and often in their hands lie the issues of life and death. Essential to a careful discharge of their duties are a clear mind, avoidance of haste and a freedom from harassing requests to hurry up on the part of the patient. The situation is not always an easy one to deal with, and can only be met by tact, firmness and a determination not to be rushed into making a mistake even at the expense of annoying an unreasonable customer.

Presentation to Mr. J. H. Maiden, F.R.S.

At a joint meeting of the Councils of the Royal and Linnean Societies of New South Wales, it was decided to take steps to present Mr. J. H. Maiden, F.R.S., with his portrait in oils in recognition of the long and eminent services rendered by him to science in Australia. Subscriptions are being invited to defray the cost of the portrait, and may be forwarded to the honorary secretaries at the Royal Society's House, 5 Elizabeth-street N., Sydney. It is hoped that the portrait can be presented to Mr. Maiden on the occasion of the centenary of the Botanic Gardens, Sydney, in June.

Dispensing Bottles.

We have had a case brought under our notice several instances in which trouble has arisen owing to the variation in the size of dispensing bottles. An 8 oz. bottle was measured a few days ago, and found to hold nearly 9 oz. This variation may or may not affect the amount of the medicine given to a patient, but it has an important effect in prosecutions under the Pure Foods Act. In England recently, a reputed 8 oz. bottle (which actually held 9 oz.) was used to dispense 4 drams of Sodium Salicylate. An inspector purchased it, and divided it into three parts for analysis. The analyst received one of the three parts, and being in ignorance of the extra size of the bottle, he reported that the amount of Salicylate present was one-ninth less than it should have been. Result, a police court prosecution. Apparently the only way to obviate the difficulty is either to measure the finished mixture in a graduated glass, and then pour it into the bottle, or first of all to measure the holding capacity of the bottle, and dispense the mixture accordingly. Dispensing bottles are not guaranteed as accurate by manufacturers. Variations from 20 to 25 per cent are not uncommon. Hence the necessity of care in the use of these bottles, particularly in cases where the question of exact dosage is important. Splinters and loose scales in bottles are another trouble which confronts the careful pharmacist. Unless bottles and vials are scrutinised before use, there is a danger of particles of glass being swallowed, or in the case of an external medicine of the skin being cut. With a modicum of care, these dangers may easily be avoided. Touching upon another point, accidents and explosions have been caused owing to carelessness in not seeing that the bottle before being used is absolutely clean. In some opaque bottles this is not always an easy matter, but the use of a wire or glass rod should quickly determine whether such a bottle contained any residuum of a former mixture. Failure to do this in one case cost a pharmacist £200 in a law suit. These may seem trifling matters in themselves, but at the same time their neglect may cause much annoyance and pecuniary loss. Further, nothing should be regarded as being too small if its observance makes for more accurate and careful dispensing.

War Notes.

Military Pharmacists en Route.

The above photo. was taken at Ceylon. Seated in the rickshaws are Staff Sergeants J. G. Anderson and Bert Bennett and Sergt. Melville Bennett. Staff Sergt. J. G. Fitzpatrick was also in the vicinity, but he could not be induced to face the camera.

General Items.

Mr P. H. Shepherd, Ph.C., late of Heyfield, has enlisted.

Ivan Rupert Elliott, Ph.C., Tasmania, has been gazetted an Hon. Lieutenant in the A.A.M.C. Reserve, 6th Military District.

Sergt. R. S. Darling, writing to Mr. T. E. Turner on March 20, states that he is dispenser in charge of a training battalion at ——, near Cairo.

Mr. T. V. Laurence, chemist, Brunswick, has sustained a sad loss in the death of his eldest surviving son, who was killed in action in France on May 2.

Messrs. N. McKellar, L. McDonald, and F. Webb, who were employed in the drug department of Messrs. Duerdin and Sainsbury, have enlisted, and are now in camp.

Lieut. Cyril J. Tonkin was mentioned in a recent casualty list as having been injured. Private cable advices stated that his leg was fractured, but that he was progressing satisfactorily. He resigned from the A.M.C., and secured a commission in the machine gun section.

The Hon. R. B. Rees, M.L.C., has three sons engaged in military duties. Charles Vivian Rees, Ph.C., aged 24, was in London when war broke out, joined the 11th Hussars in September, 1914, has been in the firing line in France since March, 1915, with only 10 days relief. Delwyn V. Rees, aged 22, left the Medical School at the University for the camp in Melbourne, and is still here. Clifton Rees, aged 20, has been in the trenches assisting to protect the Suez Canal since last October.

Farewell to Soldier.—Mr W. C. Beckx Daly, travelling representative in Australia for Messrs. Evans Sons, Lescher and Webb Ltd., who will leave shortly for the front, was entertained at

a farewell at home in Mr. Walter Kirby's rooms, Collins-street, on May 4, and presented with an address and pair of field glasses.

Inspection of College of Pharmacy.—Colonel Cuscaden, P.M.O., 3rd Military District, accompanied by Captain Cossar, visited the Melbourne College of Pharmacy on May 11 and inspected the various class rooms, laboratories, etc. He expressed appreciation of the completeness of the facilities provided. Captain Cossar informed him that at the commencement of the war the College Council had offered the use of the College to the Defence Department free of charge, and that offer still held good if the Department could find any use for the accommodation offered.

Captain W. B. Drake.

Captain W. B. Drake, senior pharmacist for Tasmania, was originally educated for the legal profession, and qualified as a solicitor in 1899. Possessing a leaning towards chemistry, he entered the drug business and subsequently took up the pharmaceutical examinations, becoming registered as a pharmacist in 1906. He was a member of the Pharmacy Board for seven years, his legal knowledge proving of considerable service in the early stages of the Board's history. The business of Drake and Co., with which Mr. Drake is now connected, was established as far back as 1834.

Victorian Military Motor Ambulance.

The following letter was received on May 5 from Lieut. R. W. Waller, who left Victoria in charge of the No. 3 Military Ambulance, presented to the Defence Department by the pharmacists of Victoria:—

Gamrah, Cairo,
Egypt, 5th April, 1916.

To the Secretary,
Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia,
Melbourne, Victoria.

Dear Sir,—

After taking over the command of the above unit in March it occurred to me that the donators of the motor ambulance presented to the Forces would be interested to learn of the work the cars have been doing and something of their history.

To properly control the work of carrying sick and wounded it was decided to establish the Australian Motor Transport Service; all Australian ambulances are attached to this unit, some being on loan to different hospitals, but the majority working from this garage.

The Wolseley car presented by Victorian pharmacists and their assistants has done excellent service, in fact, it would be impossible for you to realise, without being in Egypt, what demands have been made upon the cars, and how, by careful driving, aided by skilful mechanical work where necessary, they have been kept continuously running.

Yours faithfully,

R. W. Waller, 2nd Lieut.
O.C. Australian Motor Transport Service.

Army Medical Corps Commissions.

Senator Needham, on May 18, asked the Minister of Defence, *upon notice*—

1. Is it a fact that qualified pharmacists in the A.M.C. are only ranked as staff-sergeants, whereas commissioned rank is given in all other callings where professional services of a skilled expert nature are required?

2. Is it a fact that in the Canadian, French, Italian, Japanese, and German armies commissions are granted to all qualified pharmacists undertaking dispensary duties?

3. Have any commissions been granted to qualified pharmacists in charge of any of the A.M.C. dispensaries in any of the camps?

4. Is it a fact that qualified pharmacists have for several months been undertaking dispensing work in camps with the rank of acting-corporal and with private's pay?

5. Seeing that the duties of quartermasters in the A.M.C. units are of a medical and pharmaceutical nature, will the Minister give instructions that a proportion of qualified pharmacists are to be appointed to these positions?

6. Have any instructions been issued that qualified pharmacists only are to be placed in charge of all camp dispensaries.

7 Will the Minister, in view of the serious dearth of qualified pharmacists, give instructions that no further pharmacists are to be allowed to leave in the A.I.F. except in connexion with the medical services?

The following answers were given:—

1. No. Both commissioned and non-commissioned officer rank are granted.

2. [illegible] to the matter is not [illegible]
3. N[illegible]
4. [illegible] to orders from Head-[illegible]
5. N[illegible] plasters have nothing to do [illegible] properties. They require special [illegible]
6. Yes
7. No[illegible] advisable.

New South Wales.

(From Our Sydney Correspondent.)

Pharmacy Board of New South Wales.

The regular monthly meeting of this Board was held on May 9th. Mr. F. P. J. Gray (President) occupied the chair, with Messrs. A. Wadsworth, T. S. Loney, J. Dixson, and Frank Lloyd. Apologies were received from absent members.

The Case of Henry Edward Perry.—A letter was received from the Treasury stating that the Minister after due consideration of all the documents in the case of Henry Edward Perry, who had been struck off the register after prosecution for issuing certain handbills, etc., concurred with the decision of the Board, that Mr. Perry's application for restoration to the register of chemists should be refused. The communication was formally received.

Hospitals Keeping Open Shop.—A letter was received from the Secretary of the Pharmacy Board of Tasmania, asking the position regarding the keeping of open shops by hospitals and dispensaries in New South Wales. The Zeehan Medical Union desired to amend the Pharmacy Act in Tasmania, so as to permit them to trade with the public. The Registrar said that in New South Wales friendly Societies were not allowed to trade with the public, as pharmaceutical chemists. The Act gave them certain rights and privileges which were sharply defined. The same thing applied to hospitals. Mr. Wadsworth moved that a letter be written to Tasmania, explaining the position in New South Wales. Hospitals had certain powers conferred upon them by Act of Parliament, and this did not include trading with the public. Mr. Loney said that if hospitals entered into competition with business people the result would be that the public would not be as much subscribe to their funds.

Deputation to the Treasurer.—A letter was received from the State Treasurer appointing a time when it would be convenient for him to receive a deputation from the Pharmacy Board regarding the request that the dispensing of the Pensioners' Medicines be taken out of the hands of the Pharmacy Board and placed under the control of the Health Department. It was decided that the President, Mr. Gray, should form the deputation, and that Mr. Wadsworth should wait upon the Minister, and that Dr. J. D. Wilson also be asked to make one of the deputation. (The former deputation consisted of the President with Mr. Ll. P. Williams and Mr. A. Wadsworth, Mr. V. Forster attending in his official capacity as Registrar of the Board.)

Registrations under Pharmacy Act.—P. J. McSweeny, of Albury (Ph.C., Victoria), and Septimus Chas. Parl, of Mosman (passed Final Examination), were granted registration under the Pharmacy Act. Arthur Audley, of Manly, who recently changed his name from Adolphus Auerbach, produced his certificate of birth and statutory declaration as demanded by the Crown Law Office, and an alteration of his certificate of registration was ordered to be issued to him.

Registration under the Poisons Act.—P. J. McSweeny and S. C. Parl were granted pharmacists Poisons Licenses, and annual license to sell poisons were granted to 5 storekeepers; 31 storekeepers were granted a renewal of their licenses.

Treasurer's Statement.—Cash in bank, £0 10s.; accounts amounting to £28 5s. 2d. were passed for payment. It was announced that a grant of money had been made by the State Treasurer to the funds of the Board, and the same would be paid into the credit of the Board at an early date.

In Lieu of Preliminary.—Albert G. May, of Cessnock, presented his pass of Preliminary Examination of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, and asked that it be accepted in lieu of Preliminary. Mr. Wadsworth pointed out that they had no evidence before them as to the exact nature of the examination held in Ireland. If the candidate was allowed to take subjects separately and pass by going up for several separate examinations, it was not fair to accept such passes, as their own candidates were compelled to pass at one sitting. He also mentioned the fact that the Board had hitherto been accepting the Final Examination from Ireland, but Ireland did not accept the Final of New South Wales. He considered that they should not reciprocate with any Society or Board which was not also willing to accept N.S.W. men. Mr. Loney said that while he quite agreed with Mr. Wadsworth, he thought the question of reciprocity with Ireland might be left until after the war. With respect to the matter before the Board, the acceptance of the certificate in lieu of Preliminary, he thought they might accept it and correspond with the Board in Ireland regarding the same. It was resolved to accept the certificate presented.

D. Hoste, of Balmain, presented certain Irish certificates, and asked their acceptance in lieu of Preliminary. These were refused, as they did not embrace the required subjects.

Registration of Indentures.—M. C. Kirby to W. H. Mayhew, of Petersham, term 3 years; Beatrice Rex to M. S. Clarke, of Lakemba, term 3 years; H. H. Branson to J. C. Hallam, of Sydney, term 3 years; C. Eden to P. J. Moodie, of Bathurst, term 3 years. The indentures of M. F. Merton were transferred from E. E. C. Schofield, of Wollahra, to T. H. Dick, of Strathfield. Registration was granted in each case.

Next Final Examination.—The Registrar announced that the examiners recommended that this examination be held on July 24th, and following days. The Board endorsed the recommendation of the examiners.

Pharmacists Liable to be Struck Off.—The Registrar laid on the table a list of names of pharmacists whose address was unknown. Letters, according to the requirements of the Pharmacy Act, had been sent to them, but the postal authorities could not find them. Mr. Wadsworth moved that a second registered letter be sent as required by the Act, and if these men could not be traced their names be removed, as required by law. The Act provided for the restoration of such names if it was found that they were in the State and desired restoration.

Unqualified Dispensers.—The Registrar drew the attention of the Board to an advertisement, which appeared in the columns of the "Daily Telegraph," for May 6th, inserted by the Secretary of the Glen Innes (N.S.W.) Hospital, for a matron for the hospital and training school for nurses, one able to dispense was required. Mr. Wadsworth moved that a letter be sent to the hospital, and also to the British Medical Association, calling attention to the fact that it was illegal for unqualified persons to act as dispensers to hospitals. The motion was seconded by Mr. Dixson, and carried.

Conscription.—A discussion then took place on the subject of conscription and its possible effect upon the business of pharmacists in New South Wales. If pharmacists were required to enlist, it might be possible that the wants of the public could not be satisfactorily met. Already the business was feeling the strain. Capt. Wadsworth said that it was essential that the wants of the army be first met. Pharmacists should not be required to serve in any but their professional capacity. It was folly for a pharmacist to serve in the ranks as a private, when better use could be made of his services in the A.A.M.C.

The meeting then adjourned.

Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales.

The regular meeting of Council was held on April 19th, at the Board-room, Richmond Terrace, Sydney.

Present.—Messrs. T. S. Loney, A. Rogers, J. F. McKimm, and S. V. Penrose. Apologies were received from Messrs. A. Wadsworth, F. P. J. Gray, J. Dixson, W. Short, and F. Lloyd. Mr. T. S. Loney was voted into the chair.

The members of Council expressed regret at the absence of Mr. Lloyd, in consequence of the illness of his wife.

Letters of Thanks were received from Mr. H. S. Brothwood, and from Professor A. A. Lawson, on their being elected as honorary life members of the Society.

Necessary Commodities Commission.—A letter was received from the Secretary of the Commission asking the Society to let them have a list of the drugs most commonly used in dispensing.

Mr. Loney said that he thought that they had better send the list compiled by Martindale some years ago.

Mr. Foster said that the President had had the matter in hand, and had partly compiled a list.

It was decided to ask the members of the Council to make suggestions as to what drugs should be included in the list to be forwarded to the Commission.

Treasurer's Statement.—This showed a credit balance of £1022/12/8. Accounts amounting to £206/11/2 were passed for payment. This amount included £102/16/2 due to the "Chemist and Druggist," and £32/15/7 legal expenses in connection with the new Articles of Association.

New Members.—Edward Hinvest, of Newtown; John Joseph Murphy, of Burwood; and Allen Joseph Rawnsley, of Manly, applied for admission as members, and a ballot being taken, they were declared duly elected.

Election of Officers.—It was proposed by Mr. Penrose, and seconded by Mr. J. F. McKimm, "that the officers retain office until the new Council be elected."—Carried.

Journal Matters.—The Secretary mentioned the matter of the official journal of the Society. The chairman, however, ruled that, as they had, by resolution, decided to refer the matter to the new Council, it was not within their power to take any further steps in this matter.

A Government Dispensership.—The Secretary brought under notice of members an advertisement that appeared, emanating from the military authorities, for a matron, part of whose duties shall be to dispense, under the supervision of the medical officer. The matter will be brought before the next meeting of the Pharmacy Board.

The monthly meeting of Council was held on May 17th, at 11 a.m., at the Board Room, Richmond-terrace, Sydney. Present—Mr. A. Wadsworth (President) in the chair, with Messrs. Gray, Lloyd, Dixson, McKimm and Williams. Apologies were received from absent members.

Necessary Commodities.—The President reported that he had made out a list of what were considered to be the drugs most commonly used in prescriptions and had forwarded the same to the secretary of the Commission. The list was open for the inspection of the members of Council. The Council approved of the action of the President.

Lysol Substitute.—A letter was received from from Mr. H. A. Reeves, local representative of Pearson's Antiseptic Co., stating that they had acquired the Australian rights to use the word Lysol, but recognising the undesirability of perpetuating the enemy's trade name they were labelling their preparation "Lysol" and "Pacolol," which, they explained, was to be the English name for the preparation. They asked that purchasers and the medical profession should use the name Pacolol instead of Lysol when asking for this preparation.

Mr. Gray said that the pharmacists should do all in their power to kill the name of Lysol, and refuse to handle any preparation so labelled. They had cremated the medical profession, saying that Liq Cresolis Co. of the V.P.F. was a preparation practically identical in composition with Lysol and he considered that they should withhold their support to any proprietary preparation even though it was a good substitute for Lysol. They had better let each line run on its own merits, and hoped that the name Lysol would soon be forgotten. So long as they kept the name "Lysol" before the public they were helping to perpetuate the demand for a German article, and the name was often of more importance than a trade mark.

Mr. Wadsworth said they did not want their society to be used to advertise any proprietary article. They would prefer that when a doctor wanted "Lysol" he should order it under the name of Liq Cresolis Co.

It was proposed by Mr. Gray, and seconded by Mr. Lloyd, that a reply be sent to the effect that they thought that any perpetuation of the name "Lysol" was very undesirable.

Treasurer's Statement.—Cash in bank, etc., £827 11/-; Benevolent Fund, £12/10/4. Accounts amounting to £17/14/0 were passed for payment.

New Members.—Sydney C. Cunninghame, of Auburn; J. A. Vincent, of Sydney; and H. J. Parker, of Sydney. A ballot was taken, and the applicants were duly elected.

Application for Diploma.—A. J. Rawnsley applied for the society's diploma, which was granted.

Mr. Wadsworth said that this was the first diploma granted under the new Articles of Association, which provided that when a member ceased to be a member he was bound to return the society his diploma under a penalty of £10. This amount was recoverable by law.

Weights and Measures Bill.—The Secretary said that a new Weights and Measures Bill was before Parliament. He suggested that while the proposed amended Act was not detrimental to the interests of pharmacists, he thought that they might have a clause inserted authorising them to use the metric weights and measures. He had had an interview the the Police Department on the matter, and they quite approved of the proposal. The British Act contained a clause which he thought they might recommend for incorporation in the proposed Amended Act.

It was decided that Mr. A. Wadsworth, Mr. L. P. Williams and the Secretary be a committee to deal with the matter and take such steps as they might find necessary to obtain the insertion of the clause providing for the use of metric weights and measures by pharmacists and others.

Roll of Honour.—Mr. F. P. J. Gray proposed that the society erect a Roll of Honour to contain the names of pharmacists who had gone to the war and those who should hereafter go. He had obtained a quotation as to cost, and would obtain prices from other makers. Mr. Wadsworth supported the motion, and said that they had better obtain prices from various makers. They must also consider the conditions under which names were to be inserted on the roll. Was it to be confined to the members of the Pharmaceutical Society or to all pharmacists who should take active service? It was agreed that the erection of a Roll of Honour was very desirable, but further consideration was left over for a subsequent meeting, when all information as to costs and conditions were to be gone into.

Prospective Conscription.—Mr. Wadsworth said that he had been asked to bring under their attention the question of conscription and the need of making proper arrangements to supply the wants of the public in the event of conscription being suddenly sprung upon them. He read extracts from a communication received by him on the matter. After considerable discussion, it was decided that the matter was not one of urgency and it was impossible to make any arrangements in advance as to what would be necessary in the event of conscription being brought in in Australia.

Major Blacklow.

Major A. C. Blacklow is the pharmacist in New South Wales who has most distinguished himself in military matters. Mr. Blacklow was formerly in business as a pharmacist at Randwick and alway's took a great interest in military matters. He was an excellent rifle man and last Bisley team he was one of the best shots in the New South Wales team. He was one of the most popular officers in the Australian Rifles, which was the crack shooting regiment in New South Wales before the war. On May 13th the executive committee of the National Rifle Association of New South Wales assembled at Fort Macquarie to bid farewell to Major Blacklow on the occasion of his leaving for the front. The chairman of the executive (Mr. E. J. Brown) was present with the other members, and one and all wished Major Blacklow every success during the campaign and a safe return to his native land. Major Blacklow would long ago have been at the front, but his services were so valuable as an instructor in musketry at Liverpool that the military authorities kept him in the State to assist in the training of recruits. As a pharmacist Major Blacklow is well known and highly respected, and he is followed by the hearty good wishes of a large circle of professional as well as private friends.

Missing Pharmacists.

The following pharmacists have failed to reply to official communications addressed to them from the Registrar of the Pharmacy Board of New South Wales. A further letter will be forwarded to their last known address, and if no answer is returned the names will be removed from the Register of the Pharmacy Board of New South Wales, according to law. Any person whose name is so removed may have his name

restored by proving his identity and making application in proper form:—

Wilfred Barnes, Leichhardt.	A. A. Ludlow, Newcastle.
F. E. W. Darling, Bingara.	D. McEwan, Cobar
Howard C. Ellis, Sydney.	W. J. Purcell, Bexley.
E. E. Evans, Rockdale,	J. F. Schweigler, Strathfield
H. C. Fortey, Balmain.	W. J. Trenery, Sydney.
A. E. Hanley, Marrickville.	F. G. Erler, Sydney.
W. T. Hattersley, North Sydney.	C. J. Foley, Sydney.
H. A. Hawkins, Newcastle.	W. C. Watson, Goulburn.
T. W. Howley, Marrickville	W. G. Clapperton, Lewisham.
Miss Maynard Jefford, Rookwood	C. H. Edwards, Sydney.

Any person knowing the correct address of any of the above pharmacists is requested to forward the same to the Registrar of the Pharmacy Board, Richmond-terrace, The Domain, Sydney. In some instances it is believed that the person is dead, and the Registrar of Deaths in the district has failed to forward the name to be removed from the Register.

Medical Supplies at Gallipoli.

Sergeant Compounder Charles Warden, who left Sydney with the Ambulance detachment of the 1st Light Horse, has sent an account of his experiences during the evacuation of Gallipoli. He was in charge of medical stores and surgical panniers, and could not get them aboard the tug that was to convey them back to Egypt. At the command of his superior officer he and his assistants were compelled to abandon them on the sea shore and go aboard. Another lot of men coming after were able to pick up the medical stores and take them aboard another boat, so that shortly after the Light Horse ambulance had arrived at Suez they were handed their medical and surgical panniers, etc. These panniers had seen a great deal of very rough service since their leaving Sydney, but the packages were so strong that they were uninjured by the rough handling they received in transit. These panniers were supplied by Elliott Bros. from designs supplied by the War Office.

Drug Supplies in Sydney.

Up to the present there has been no real shortage of drug supplies in Sydney. The prices have been high, but this has arisen from the fact that the wholesale houses have instructed their buyers abroad that price was but of secondary consideration compared with the obtaining of supplies. The result has been that larger quantities have been obtained and at a lower rate than if such instructions had not been given to the buyers. At the same time, the market price of drugs in Sydney has been about the same and in some cases lower than the prices ruling in London on the same date. This has arisen from the fact that the drug supplies for Sydney were purchased earlier and were re-sold at a price which did not come up to the later market price in London. Many Sydney chemists have been disappointed that they have not been able to obtain larger supplies from the local wholesale houses at a low rate for them to hold in anticipation of the later rises. Each man has been able to purchase his normal quantity, but not to lay in a stock for months ahead, as this would deplete the wholesale stocks so much as to leave none for the smaller buyers whose wants have been considered in the distribution of the stocks in hand. When fresh supplies have been purchased at the higher rates this has been charged on to the retail trade as a matter of course.

Hospital Saturday.

The collections for the Hospitals of Sydney, usually held on the first Saturday in May, was held on May 12th, and, although the total amount handed over totalled £20,878 15s., yet the results of the street collections were disappointing, as they did not amount to half the sum that was collected last year. In fact, if it had not been for the Policemen and Firemen's Fete and street collections, which amounted to £6884 6s. 11s., and the contribution from the Government of £4000, the sum would have looked small. Last year the whole amount collected was £9164 17s. 1d., and thus, though the Committee have over £20,000 this year, the actual collections from the public on the Hospital Day show a falling off. This is not to be wondered at, considering the numerous and incessant calls upon the public. Sydney people are getting heartily sick of these street collections We are threatened with two more "Days" with special collections soon, and by this time the Sydney public will be drained pretty dry. The in-door collections showed an improvement. The employees of Elliott Brothers Ltd. contributed the sum of £23 10s. towards the fund.

Institute of Science and Industry.

The Preliminary Advisory Council of this Institute have been at work and have held meetings in Melbourne on April 14th and 15th.

It has been reported in Sydney by the representatives of the State of New South Wales that the following were among the more important of the resolutions adopted.

(1) That the chairman of the Advisory Council shall have a vote and a casting vote.

(2) That an Executive Committee of six be appointed, of whom three shall form a quorum.

(3) That the Government be asked to appoint additional members of this Council, so as to permit of sub-committees of the Council being formed in each State.

(4) That the chairman in each State shall be an ex-officio member of the Executive Committee.

(5) That the local State Committee shall elect as its chairman one of its members on the Advisory Council as enlarged.

(6) That the Committee in each State consist of the State representatives on the Advisory Council, together with any other associate members appointed on the nomination of the State Government. These associate members of the State committees shall not be members of the Advisory Council. The members of the State committee shall be called together by its chairman.

[illegible] that the Federal Government be asked to make such additional appointments to this Council as may be necessary to ensure that no State shall have less than three representatives on the Council in addition to the ex officio members.

(8) That all questions relating to the staff of the Council be referred to the Executive Committee, which shall make recommendations direct to the Government.

The following gentlemen were elected as members of the Executive Committee:—Professor R. D. Watt, Professor D. Orme Masson, Messrs. G. D. Delprat, I. R. Lyle, E. A. Mann, and A. B. Piddington. The Prime Minister, and in his absence, the Vice-President of the Federal Executive Council, is to be the chairman of the Executive Committee.

The Commonwealth Government has given its approval to these resolutions, and the New South Wales members have been duly constituted as a local committee. The following are the members:—The Hon. W. Graham (Minister for Agriculture), Professor C. E. Fawsitt, Professor R. D. Watt, Dr. J. F. Elliott, Messrs. A. B. Piddington, K.C., E. Leverrier, K.C., and F. B. Guthrie.

At a meeting held in Sydney on May 8th Mr. E. Leverrier was elected chairman of the local committee, and Professor C. E. Fawsitt the honorary secretary.

Should this committee desire to co-opt an associate member representing some special subject, this fact will be represented to the Commonwealth Government through the Executive Committee, the Federal Government will then communicate with the State Government inviting nominations. The appointment will be finally made by the Federal Government.

Dentist De-registered.

William Edward Thomas, a registered dentist, appeared before the Dental Board of New South Wales on May 1 to show cause why his name should not be removed from the list of registered dentists. The complaint put before the board was that Thomas had been guilty of "infamous conduct in a professional respect" by allowing an unregistered dentist to conduct a business at Broken Hill under his (Thomas's name). Sergeant Gibson, of Broken Hill, stated in evidence that he had known Thomas for about 12 years. A registered dentist had been in charge of Thomas's place at Broken Hill until six months ago. Since that time an unregistered dentist had been carrying on there, and Thomas had only visited the place about five or six times during the past six months. The establishment bore the name "Thomas, Modern American Dentistry." Thomas said that he had branches in Melbourne, Adelaide, Ballarat, Port Pirie, and Broken Hill. He did not know that he was committing a breach of the regulations in having an unregistered man in charge at Broken Hill, and had now got a registered man there. Anything he had done had been in ignorance, and not in defiance of the law. The board found Thomas guilty of the charge, and removed his name from the list of registered dentists. Notice of appeal to the Supreme Court was given.

Victoria.

Pharmacy Board of Victoria.

The monthly meeting of the Board was held on Wednesday, May 10.

Present—The President (Mr. C. E. Towl) in the chair, and Messrs. Bailey, Buckhurst, Gulliver and Sayer. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Messrs. Fleay and Jewkes.

Correspondence.—Letters outwards, Nos. 301 to 371, were read and minuted.

Mr. Charles E. Ludbrook, Ballarat, wrote asking if the Board would accept a certificate from the headmaster of the Agricultural High School to the effect that a candidate for the Preliminary Examination passed in certain of the compulsory subjects at the Junior Public Examination. It was resolved that the certificate of the headmaster be accepted.

Mr. G. Thomas, Dubbo, N.S.W., asked if he could be allowed to attend the lectures and complete his qualification in Victoria. He had served a three years' apprenticeship in England, but had not passed the Preliminary Examination. It was resolved that a reply be sent pointing out that the Board had no power to dispense with the passing of the Preliminary Examination prior to apprenticeship.

Mr. W. J. G. Turner, Secretary of the Austin hospital for Incurables, in reply to a letter bringing under notice the fact that the dispensing work at the hospital was not being undertaken by a registered pharmacist, wrote stating that the whole of the work in the dispensary was carried out under the personal supervision of the resident medical officer, Dr. Tarleton.

Mr. W. G. Ross, Bendigo, wrote denying the statement which had been made in the columns of a trade paper that he had purchased the business of Mr. D. Anderson, of Bendigo. As he had not yet passed his Final Examination, he desired to make his position clear to the Board.

Mr. James Reid, Registrar of the Pharmacy Board of Tasmania, wrote asking what arguments had been used to combat the proposal to extend the trading privileges of dispensaries in Victoria. The Registrar said that he had furnished the information asked for.

A complaint was received from a candidate who sat for the March Preliminary Examination, that some of the questions in algebra were beyond the requirements of the syllabus. The matter was referred to the examiner, who reported that no other candidate had raised any objection to the questions, and that he would be glad if the complainant would point out in what respect the questions exceeded the regulations.

Dr. Arthur E. South, Ballarat, wrote acknowledging receipt of a copy of the "Digest of the British Pharmacopoeia," and expressing appreciation of the valuable information which the book contained.

Mr. C. Gadeke, Fitzroy, wrote intimating that he was agreeable to fall in with the Board's suggestion that the shares in Amalgamated Insurance Co., which he had transferred in trust to

the Registrar, should be placed to the credit of the Scholarship Fund of the Pharmaceutical Society. On the motion of Mr. Sayer, seconded by Mr. Bailey, it was resolved that a letter of thanks be forwarded to Mr. Gadeke in acceding to the Board's request.

A Certificate of Identity under the Reciprocity Agreement was granted to Mr. Patrick I. M'Sweeney, Albury.

Enrolment of Managers.—The following managers of branch pharmacies and dispensaries were registered:—Miss Irene Hearn, manager for Messrs. Pront and Son, North Melbourne; Mr. A. V. Huntsman, manager for Mr. A. E. Davis, Auburn; Mr. J. O'Donoghue, manager for Coburg U.F.S. Dispensary.

Apprentices' Indentures Registered.—Allen T. Leete to A. J. Richardson, Kyneton; Margaret Davey to W. J. S. Cowper, Fitzroy; Havill J. Nolan to J. Hislop, Windsor; Eileen A. Connolly to A. R. Bailey, Malvern; Herbert C. Morieson to T. E. Wade, Auburn; Thomas V. Payne to D. A. Cossar, Hawthorn; Ida Williams to W. S. Dyer, Toorak. The Registrar reported that in the latter case the indenture was for 14 months and 10 days. Miss Williams had served 2 years 9 months and 21 days under a former indenture, which had been cancelled by mutual consent. A fresh indenture was, therefore, necessary to complete the full term of 4 years.

Poisons Licences were granted to Charles Graham, Portarlington; Wm. Webster, Elmhurst; J. M'Gill, Chillingollah; J. H. Wishart, Allendale; Lionel Malcolm, Neerim Junction; Mary H. Byrne, Moyhu; A. D. Finnie, Colbinabbin, and Harry Bradshaw, Gunbower.

Erasure of Names.—The names of the following deceased chemists were erased from the Pharmaceutical Register:—John King, Junr., 47 Bridge-street, Ballarat; Colin M'Phee, Nathalia; Wm. P. Sinclair, Sandringham.

Police Reports.—The police department furnished reports in connection with three cases of poisoning which had occurred during the month. The cases related to a death from morphia poisoning and another one from strychnine. In a non-fatal case a dose of carbolic acid was taken in mistake for an internal medicine. The president drew attention to the fact that in most of the strychnine-poisoning cases recently reported, the police had been unable to ascertain where the poison had been purchased. In his opinion this was due to the free and easy manner in which strychnine was distributed for vermin destruction purposes.

The June Examinations.—The questions for the June examinations were discussed and agreed to.

Chlorodyne Restrictions.—The Registrar read a memorandum which had been furnished to the Under Secretary in reference to the proposal to further restrict the sale of chlorodyne to the public. This memorandum had been forwarded to Dr. W. Ernest Jones, Inspector-General of the Insane, who disagreed with the Board's contention that because chlorodyne was a very largely used remedy in distant parts of the State, it should not be treated as a dangerous drug. Dr. Jones suggested that the correspondence should be forwarded to the council of the British Medical Association for opinion. Mr. Bailey said he thought that the Board would be forced sooner or later to consider the question of transferring both chlorodyne and laudanum to the first part of the schedule of the Poisons Act. Mr. Gulliver said that he did not think chlorodyne was illegitimately used to any extent. Alcohol was far more dangerous, yet it could be sold without restriction. The proportion of morphia in the two proprietary chlorodynes on the market was small. It was resolved that Mr. Gulliver and the Registrar confer with Dr. Jones in regard to the matter, and report to the next meeting.

Complaint by a Doctor.—Dr. Gerald Weigall, Elsternwick, forwarded a prescription given by him to a patient who presented it at a suburban pharmacy to be dispensed. The prescription was handed back to the patient by the dispenser with the comment that the doses were too large and the directions too vague for him to care to make it up. The patient thereupon took the prescription back to Dr. Weigall, and expressed his indignation at what he considered the doctor's carelessness. Dr. Weigall telephoned the pharmacy in question, but the only satisfaction he could get from the dispenser was that the prescription could not be understood. He then asked the dispenser why he did not telephone to him, instead of upsetting the patient. The dispenser replied that he was unable to decipher the initials on the prescription. Dr. Weigall asked for the Board's advice as to what steps, if any, he could take in regard to the matter. The Registrar reported that on receipt of this communication he brought the facts under the notice of the proprietor of the pharmacy referred to, who had expressed a desire to attend before the Board and tender an explanation.

Mr. ——, pharmacist, was then admitted. He explained that until he received the Registrar's communication he was in entire ignorance of the circumstances of the case. On being shown Dr. Weigall's prescription by the President, he frankly admitted that it presented no difficulties, and should have been easily dispensed by any competent pharmacist. He could not understand why his assistant, who was a registered pharmacist of New Zealand, but not registered in Victoria, had not mentioned the matter to him. He could only express his regret that the incident had happened.

The President said that this was one of those unfortunate cases which not only injured the individual pharmacist himself, but reflected on the craft generally. Nothing could be said in extenuation of the action of the dispenser in not communicating with the doctor, or in neglecting to inform his employer of what had taken place. His excuse that he could not decipher the signature on the prescription was worthless, as he could easily have asked the person who brought the prescription in who the prescriber was. He thought that the only proper thing to do was for the pharmacist to tender an apology to Dr. Weigall, and to personally call on him and explain the circumstances of the case. The assistant was certainly guilty of a gross dereliction of

duty [illegible] for the master to deal with, he should be dealt with.

Mr. —— thanked the Board for giving him an opportunity of explaining his explanation before the members. He met the meeting with the intention of [illegible] Dr. Wegall and explaining the matter to him personally. It was resolved to thank Dr. Wegall for bringing the complaint under notice, and to inform him of the action the Board had taken in the matter.

Dangerous Patents.—The Government Medico-Legal Analyst furnished reports on samples of "Nu Post" and "Hean's Tonic Nerve Nuts," which had been submitted for analysis. The reports disclosed that there were no scheduled poisons present in either of these preparations.

Poisons Matters.—A communication was received from Dr. David Grant, drawing attention to the necessity of further restricting the sale of certain patent drugs. In one case he had recently sought under [illegible] the dose mentioned on the [illegible] was [illegible] distinctly dangerous. If the Board had not the power to deal with these cases, should, in the interests of the public, be given such authority. As a public body charged with the protection of the public, the Board ought to take cognisance of these matters and have the power to do what was right. The Registrar reported that a copy of Dr. Grant's communication had been forwarded to the Chief Secretary as a further instance of the necessity which existed to deal with matters of this sort, and a reply was received stating that this communication would be considered by the Minister together with the other suggestions already made in this respect by the Board.

Dual Registration.—A communication was received from the Pharmacy Board of Tasmania, asking for the opinion of the Board as to whether the reciprocity agreement contemplated persons registered in one State becoming registered in another State, and still retaining their original registration. It was resolved that a reply be sent stating that under the reciprocity agreement the Board was entitled to register any pharmacist who complied with the requirements of the regulations, notwithstanding the fact that he had previously been registered in other States. The only condition under the reciprocity agreement was that any person after registration must [illegible] his original diploma.

Public Health Act.—The Board of Public Health forwarded [illegible] of papers in reference to the suggested [illegible] had been made to place restrictions on the employment of persons under 21 years who were engaged in spraying fruit trees with arsenical solutions. This matter had been brought under the notice of the Health Department by the Victorian Stonemasons and Quarry Owners' Association. The Department stated that the Health Act contained no provisions dealing with the matter, and forwarded the papers to the Pharmacy Board with a view of ascertaining whether the Poisons Act or the Medical Act could deal with the matter. It was resolved that a reply be sent stating that the provisions referred to in the Poisons Act or the Medical Act preventing the practice referred to, and that the Board had no power to pass a regulation specifying the age under which persons should not be allowed to use these arsenical sprays. The only restrictions under the Poisons Act were those relating to the labelling and safe custody of the arsenic.

The hon. treasurer presented the monthly financial statement, and after dealing with other business the Board adjourned.

Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia.

The monthly meeting of the Council was held on Wednesday, May 3.

Present.—The President (Mr. D. A. Cossar) in the chair, and Messrs. Bailey, Champion, Francis, Gabriel, Kernot, Lee, Leete, Owen and Pickford.

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Messrs. Imes and Taylor.

Correspondence.—To Dr. James Booth, North Melbourne, forwarding information regarding the working of the Enthetic Diseases Act of Queensland, particulars of which had been kindly furnished by Mr. R. C. Cowley.

Federal Attorney-General, applying for the exemption of the Society from the provisions of the War Precautions Act Regulations, in reference to members who are of enemy origin. It was pointed out that the Society did not carry on business for profit; that no shares were issued, and that out of a membership of some 400 there were only three or four members who might be said to be of enemy origin, and that all of these as far as could be ascertained were loyal citizens, and had been for many years in business in Victoria as pharmacists.

Mr. H. W. De Gruchy, Geelong West, wrote, stating that he was desirous of becoming a member of the Society. The Secretary said that the usual nomination form had been forwarded.

Dr. David Hooper, President of the British Pharmaceutical Conference, wrote stating that he intended to make some reference in his presidential address to the assistance the overseas dominions had rendered to Great Britain in the supply of drugs, and asking if any particulars could be furnished which would be likely to assist him in preparing his address. The Secretary reported that Dr. Plowman and Mr. R. C. Cowley, of Perth, had furnished him with some useful information on the subject, and it was resolved that this be forwarded to Dr. Hooper.

Mr. W. S. Hiffe, Warragul, wrote, asking what was the position of pharmacists in dispensing prescriptions of medical men containing drugs of enemy origin which had been placed on the prohibited list. The Secretary reported that, as the matter was of considerable importance to pharmacists, the Attorney-General had been asked for an opinion on the subject. A reply to the communication forwarded had not yet been received. It was resolved that, when the reply came to hand, that the President, Mr. Bailey, and the Secretary be empowered to take such action in regard to the matter as they deemed advisable.

Mr. Alex. S. Cohn, Camberwell, wrote thanking the Council for its kind letter of sympathy in his recent sad bereavement.

Mr. R. C. Cowley, Brisbane, wrote, forwarding information of the working of the Enthetic Diseases Act of Queensland.

A large amount of correspondence dealing with military matters and the official journal was read and received.

Election of New Members.—The following new members were balloted for and elected:—

Full Members.—Frank Lawson, Errol-street, North Melbourne; Ethel Selina Leon, 90 Wellington-street, St. Kilda; Alexander W. M'Gibbony, High-street, Eaglehawk; Pierce Butler, Pall Mall, Bendigo.

Associate Member.—William E. Thomas, 549 High-street, East Prahran.

Health Act Regulations.—The President reported that, since the last meeting of the Council, Regulations had been approved under the Health Act, dealing with the question of the labelling of foods and drugs, and containing a number of other provisions affecting pharmacists. Before the Regulations were gazetted, it was ascertained that Regulation No. 71, which dealt with the declaration of certain prescribed drugs, did not contain the exemption agreed upon at the Interstate Conference held in 1913, and that under this Regulation in its present form every pharmacist would require to declare the name of certain drugs, and the quantities of such drugs not only on the labels of his proprietaries, but also on all mixtures dispensed by him, whether on a doctor's prescription or otherwise. The Secretary at once took steps to bring the matter before Dr. Edward Robertson, Chairman of the Board of Public Health. Dr. Robertson gave an assurance that the omission referred to was unintentional, and he promised that the Regulation would be amended at an early date.

The action taken by the President and Secretary in connection with the matter was endorsed.

Mr. Pickford pointed out that pharmacists should have more than an official assurance that they would not be prosecuted for neglecting to label medicines dispensed by them on a doctor's prescription. He thought that a letter should be forwarded to the Board of Health, asking that the Regulation be amended as early as possible, and moved a resolution to this effect, which was seconded by Mr. Gabriel, and carried.

On the motion of Mr. Owen, seconded by Mr. Pickford, it was resolved that a copy of the Regulations be procured, and forwarded to each member of the Society, together with a circular explaining what had been done by the Council in reference to Regulation No. 71.

Mr. Bailey pointed out that, under the Regulations, all proprietary medicines put up by pharmacists must be labelled with the name of the drugs and the quantity used if they contained drugs which were included in the list specified by Regulation 71.

Dispensing by Nurses.—It was reported by the Secretary that inquiries had been made in the other States regarding the training of nurses in dispensing in public hospitals. A reply was received from the Pharmaceutical Society of South Australia, stating that no such course existed in the local hospitals, but that the matter would be watched in view of possible future developments. The Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society of Queensland also stated that the practice did not prevail in the hospitals in that State. If any attempt were made to teach nurses dispensing, the Council would take immediate action to combat it. The Secretary stated that, from inquiries he had made locally, he believed that the proposal would not now be persevered with.

Urine Analysis Certificate.—The Secretary of the Victorian branch of the British Medical Association brought under notice, by direction of the Council, a certificate issued by a pharmacist, which had been received at a military recruiting depot. He asked that the matter might be investigated. The certificate forwarded certified that the urine of a certain patient had been analysed by the pharmacist referred to, and had been found to contain albumen, and the opinion was expressed that the kidney trouble would reappear as soon as the patient exposed himself to any cold or hardship. The Secretary reported the result of inquiries he had made in reference to the matter based on an interview he had had with the pharmacist referred to. After discussion, it was resolved that a reply be forwarded to the British Medical Association, pointing out that the pharmacist in question qualified at a European College of Pharmacy, the curriculum of which included an exhaustive course in urine analysis. In the ordinary course of his business, a patient presented certain prescriptions to him which he dispensed. Later on, the patient asked him to analyse his urine. The chemist undertook this work on various occasions. No charge was made for the analysis. The patient then asked the chemist if he would give him a certificate showing the result of the analysis, as he wanted it for military purposes. He was advised that a certificate given by a chemist would carry no weight with the military authorities, and that it would be necessary for him to get a certificate from his medical adviser. The patient, however, said he would like the chemist to give him a letter showing the result of the analysis. This request was acceded to in a friendly way, and no fee was charged. There was no intention on the part of the pharmacist to represent in any way that he was a medical practitioner, and the memorandum was written on his business paper, which clearly indicated his occupation as a pharmacist. It was resolved that the facts of the case be forwarded to the British Medical Association. The President and other members of the Council stated that their experience was that it was not an uncommon thing for medical men to ask pharmacists to make examinations of urine for their patients. In this particular case, the chemist was fully qualified to undertake such work, and as far as the Council could see, he was quite within his rights in doing so, at the same time it was possible that he had exceeded his rights in including in the certificate a prognosis of the probable future course of the disease.

Opium Regulations.—Mr Bailey brought under notice a communication received from a firm of wholesale druggists, asking pharmacists to sign a statutory declaration that they would supply opium and cocaine preparations and derivatives

purposes only, and not under circumstances which indicated the possession of the drugs designed for smoking opium purposes. He thought that the wording of the declaration was rather ambiguous, and questioned whether a statutory declaration was necessary. After discussion, the Secretary was instructed to interview the manager of the firm in question, with a view to ascertaining the nature of the new regulations, and whether the statutory declaration referred to was necessary thereunder.

Distribution of Prizes.—It was resolved that a conversazione be held in conjunction with the Pharmacy Collegians' Association, at the College of Pharmacy, on Wednesday, May 31, at 8 p.m., and that the Hon. the Chief Secretary be asked if he would consent to distribute the prizes to the successful students on that evening.

Military Matters.—The President gave a short resume of what had been done in reference to military matters since the last meeting. Some little difficulty had arisen in connection with pharmacists who had taken positions as staff-sergeants on transports. He had received a cable from some of the dispensers who were at present detained in Egypt. He believed that the difficulty was only a temporary one, and would be overcome in a day or two.

The Library.—The Hon. Librarian (Mr. Lee) reported that Mr. Parry, the Demonstrator, had re-arranged the library, and re-catalogued the books. It was resolved that a letter of thanks be forwarded to Mr. Parry for undertaking this work.

Mr. G. E. Gulliver presented to the library a volume of "Thomson's Chemistry," published in 1817. On the motion of Mr. Lee, seconded by Mr. Bailey, it was resolved that a letter of thanks be forwarded for the donation.

On the recommendation of the lecturer in chemistry, it was resolved that a copy of Plimmer's "Practical Organic and Bio-Chemistry" be added to the library.

General Business.—It was resolved that a fresh supply of copies of the College syllabus be printed to meet current requirements.

On the motion of Mr. Bailey, seconded by Mr. Kermot, it was resolved that a donation of £2/2/- be forwarded towards the fund which was being raised to present Mr. J. H. Maiden, F.R.S., with his portrait in oils, in recognition of the long and eminent service rendered by him to science in Australia.

The Hon. Treasurer (Mr. Owen) submitted the monthly financial statement, and, after dealing with other routine business, the Council adjourned.

Captain Cossar as Host.

The President of the Pharmaceutical Society, Captain D. A. Cossar, entertained the members of the Council at luncheon at the Occidental Hotel, Collins-street, on Wednesday, May 3rd. There were also present, by invitation, Mr. C. E. Towl, President of the Pharmacy Board; Mr. Frank Buckhurst, President of the P.D.L.; Mr. E. Lenthall Fisher, and the Secretary, Mr. C. L. Butchers.

At the conclusion of the luncheon, Mr. Towl heartily thanked Capt. Cossar for his generous hospitality, and referred in appreciative terms to the good work that he had done in his capacity as President of the Society, and also as the Senior Pharmacist for the State of Victoria. He asked them to join with him in drinking good health and prosperity of their highly esteemed host. Mr. Buckhurst cordially endorsed the sentiments expressed by Mr. Towl. He was very pleased at being invited to be present as the official head of the Pharmaceutical Defence movement. Capt. Cossar fully deserved the honours which had been bestowed on him, and he (Mr. Buckhurst) wished him every success in his work. The toast having been honoured with enthusiasm, Capt. Cossar briefly responded. He alluded to the excellent relations which existed between the various organisations connected with pharmacy. He also expressed his pleasure at the fact that Mr. Fisher was able to be present. He could not speak in too enthusiastic terms of the beautiful honour board which Mr. Fisher had presented to the College. It was something that every pharmacist and student of the College should be proud of. (Applause.) He thanked them heartily for their good wishes.

Mr. Fisher, in response to repeated calls, thanked Capt. Cossar for the kindly references to himself, and said that any little thing that he had been able to do in honour of the brave boys who had left their country to fight for their King and Empire, he did gladly and willingly. He regretted that he was unable to be present on the evening that the honour board was unveiled, but he took this opportunity of thanking Mr. Bailey and Mr. Owen for the appreciative manner in which they accepted the presentation, and also of expressing his indebtedness to his friend, Mr. Buckhurst, for the eloquent manner in which he had presented the honour board on his behalf.

Conversazione and Prize Distribution.

The Pharmacy Collegians' Association will hold their annual re-union at the College of Pharmacy, on Wednesday, May 31st, at 8 p.m. A good musical programme will be provided, and refreshments will be served during the evening. Captain D. A. Cossar, President of the Pharmaceutical Society, will preside. During an interval in the programme, the Honourable the Chief Secretary (Mr. D. McLeod, M.L.A.) will distribute the medals and prizes to the successful students for the year. Tickets, 2/-, may be obtained from Messrs. T. E. Turner, Auburn, President, or T. A. H. Ready, Victoria-street, Abbotsford, Hon. Sec., of the Collegians' Association.

Dispensaries Confer.

Mr. H. Marsh, of Geelong (President) was in the chair at the United Friendly Societies' quarterly conference, at the Melbourne Dispensary, Bowen-street, on May 2. There were 20 delegates, representing 13 dispensaries, and embrac-

ing Ballarat, Bendigo, and Geelong. A cordial welcome was given to Mr. LePlastrier, representing the newly-opened Elsternwick Dispensary. Mr. Neate, of Malvern, gave an interesting lecturette on the cultivation of medicinal plants in the Commonwealth from which drugs might be manufactured and placed on the market. It was agreed to interview the Federal Government on the matter. Mr. Laird (Bendigo) touched on the subject of unregistered assistants, and quoted a letter from the Pharmacy Board, explaining the requirements of the Medical Act in regard to the employment of registered assistants. It was decided to forward a copy of this communication to the various dispensaries.

Metropolitan Chemists' Association.

NORTHERN SECTION.

The monthly meeting, held on the 9th May, was particularly well attended. Interesting information regarding the labelling of chlorodyne was received from the Pharmacy Board, and the legality of medical men superintending the dispensing of medicines by unqualified persons in public hospitals was referred to the Board for its opinion. It was decided to hold a smoke night in the Cathedral Hall, Brunswick-street, Fitzroy, and a sub-committee was appointed to arrange the date and other details, those elected being Messrs. O. Smith, Yelland and Black, with the President and Secretary ex officio.

J. GARRICK, Hon. Sec.

EASTERN SECTION.

The monthly meeting of the Eastern Section was held at Glenferrie on 9th inst. Present: Messrs. Barnard (in the chair), P. T. William Wade, P. C. Cathcart, Adler, Madge, Lakeland, Le Couteur, Power, and Landmann.

Most of the evening was taken up with the discussion on the Sunday morning closing. Several members, who were absent from the last meeting, were not in favour of closing all the morning. The motion carried at the last meeting was therefore rescinded, and the Secretary was instructed to find out if all would agree to open for one hour. Suggested that 10 to 11 a.m. be the hour.

An advance copy of the editorial, on conscription, was received, and discussed. The members fully recognise the seriousness of the situation, but thought it better to wait the move of the leaders before taking action.

M. LANDMANN, Hon. Sec.

Dental Board of Victoria.

The Board met on April 14, Mr. A. L. Elvins presiding.

A letter was received from the Under-Secretary stating that Dr. J. E. Nihill and Mr. J. B. Yule had been appointed members of the Board for the ensuing three years.

The Defence Department wrote accepting offer of the Board to build a Dental hut in Egypt, similar to the one at present at Broadmeadows, and conveying the Minister's thanks for this generous and patriotic offer.

Registration of Dentists.—The following graduates were registered as dentists:—J. N. Barker, L.D.S., B.D.Sc.; P. Pincus, L.D.S., B.D.Sc.; J. L. Pritchard, L.D.S., B.D.Sc.; J. T. L. Seward, L.D.S.; F. A. Reed, L.L.S., B.D.Sc.; R. E. Wittmann, L.D.S., B.D.Sc.

A large amount of correspondence was received, and dealt with.

The Board adjourned.

E. JOSKE, LL.B., Registrar.

Queensland News.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Business Conditions.

Since last reporting, the coast district of Queensland has experienced nice rains, and in consequence business is fairly good. According to reports from wholesalers, most chemists in Queensland are doing real well. It is presumed that this deduction is drawn from the volume of orders received. On the other hand, retailers will not admit that they are doing so well. They do admit that the quantity of business put through keeps up remarkably well, but owing to the increased prices paid for their goods, which they are not able to pass on to their customers always, the percentage of profits is continually growing smaller. All this points out that on the whole they are doing fairly well in the year of grace—nineteen hundred and war-time. Perhaps Central Queensland has suffered more than any portion of the State, since rains have not been so plentiful as in other parts; yet no serious growls have been heard from there. With regard to the wholesale business, that is summed up in a statement of a wholesaler to the reporter, that they were almost busy last month. Stocks which were coming forward fairly plentifully up to a month ago have experienced a shrinkage during the present month. This appears to have been specially due to the difficulty with shipping. Prices are maintaining the previous high level, but business continues to be done.

Some considerable stocks of synthetic lines have arrived. Purchasers need not, however, anticipate any reduction in price, rather a hardening. The reporter saw recently a purchase of a nice little quantity of half a hundredweight of sodium salicylate, labelled made in America. It appears, also, that the British manufacturers are picking up in the production of salicylates and of synthetic drugs. It is evident that as the war continues German synthetics will continue to lose place, and it is devoutly to be hoped that they will never more maintain the grip on the world's markets they did before the war.

Chemists in the Brisbane district are reaping much benefits from the number of men in the local camps. Wherever there is a large number of men it is impossible for the medical department of the military forces to please them all, although at present there does not appear to be much room for dissatisfaction.

With the advent of winter, chest troubles and rheumatism have become prevalent, and notwithstanding the number of proprietary medicines for these troubles on the market, the average layman thinks he is receiving special attention when

[illegible] for his particular [illegible] are sufficiently astute to realise [illegible] accordingly.

Dengue Fever Prevalent.

Dengue fever appears to be prevalent all over the State. In Brisbane, until last year, an attempt was made to combat the mosquito evil, with the result that dengue fever was almost exterminated. For some time now, local authorities have suspended their efforts to destroy mosquitoes, and a re-efflorescence of dengue has resulted. The problem is a difficult one, but it is [illegible] desirable.

Military Pharmacists.

Mr. S. P. Clarke has joined the military forces, and is now assisting Lieut. Doyle at the Base Depot for Medical Supplies.

Messrs. Morgan and T. E. Newson have left Brisbane on transport duty.

Mr. F. E. Smith, of Maryborough, has joined the military forces.

Military Pharmacists' Comforts Fund.

The fund, which was initiated by Mr. G. Watkins, has been very well received by chemists, and they have responded right well. A sum of about £10 has been raised up to date, mostly in small sums of 5/-, the maximum amount asked for.

The Pharmaceutical Council Election.

The retiring members are—Messrs. D. J. Clarke, J. P. Davies, J. Lunn, and F. W. Simmonds. Members have been requested by the Returning Officer to send in nominations.

It is to be hoped that special interest will be taken in the election this year. Generally the retiring members have been re-elected through [illegible] members not exercising their rights.

Doctors and their Prescriptions.

The [illegible] where possible" is the [illegible] the British Medical Association to their members.

This is the sentence in a letter received by the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society from the B.M.A. We trust that doctors will adopt the B.M.A.'s advice as they ought to.

Enactments Necessary for Chemists to Exhibit.

[illegible] to exhibit the [illegible] of the employees to [illegible] Chemists Assistants' Wages Board Award [illegible] Shop Assistants Award for the benefit of [illegible] employees.

[illegible] chemists regulating [illegible] opening.

The penalty for non-compliance is £5. A circular to this effect has been issued by the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society.

South Australia.

(From Our Adelaide Correspondent.)

Pharmacy Board of South Australia.

The usual monthly meeting of the Board was held on Thursday, April 20th. Present: The President, Mr. E. F. Gryst, and Messrs. Baker, Cooper, Hustler, Porter, Guenther and Young.

Letters sent, were read, and approved. Accounts passed for payment £3/1/10.

Registrations.—Francis James Heron, Final Examination, March, 1916; George Henry Hodge, Certificate 737, New South Wales.

Pharmaceutical Society of South Australia.

The monthly meeting of the Council was held on Thursday, April 20th. Present: The President, Mr. W. H. Porter, in the chair, and Messrs. Baker, Gryst, Hustler, Guenther, Snook, and Young.

Attention was drawn to a letter from Mr. C. L. Butchers, pointing out that an idea was abroad that nurses could learn dispensing in a hospital and have a certificate issued to them entitling them to become dispensers. It was resolved to keep the matter in view, and take steps should the idea be introduced into South Australia.

Enlisted.

Messrs. E. H. S. Coombe (of Hindmarsh), W. H. Chappell (of Port Lincoln), R. Marsh.—Vivian (of Mannum), R. M. Young, and V. Hoile.

Visit to Base Depot.

On Tuesday evening, May 9th, Capt. Fox invited the Hon. Lieuts. to visit the Military Base Hospital Supply Stores.

Messrs. Porter, Gryst, Tregonning, Magarey, and Young accepted the invitation, and spent a very instructive evening. Capt. Fox is nothing if not thorough, and had prepared quite a little lecturette. He has his staff in splendid working order, and is to be congratulated on the way he has worked and arranged things.

Presentation.

On the eve of his marriage, Mr. Harold Bickford, managing director of the firm of A. M. Bickford and Sons, was made the recipient of an illuminated souvenir from the employees of the firm last Tuesday. The souvenir contained photographs of the business premises in 1830 and at the present day, of the old cordial factory and the new laboratories and works and directors since the foundation of the firm. The warehouse manager (Mr. H. Whitbread) made the presentation, and in the course of his remarks emphasised the high esteem in which Mr. Bickford was held. The Secretary (Mr. J. F. Bennett) supported these remarks, and a suitable response was delivered by the director.

Dugong Oil.

Messrs. Elliott Bros. draws attention to the fact that now would be a good time to try and substitute Dugong Oil for Cod Liver Oil. The

late Dr. Souter, of Uraidla, used a good lot of this oil at one time, and said he found it quite as good as Cod Liver Oil. He also tried to get Dugong Lard, but I am not sure whether he ever succeeded. It would be a good idea for those interested, to make some enquiries from or get Mr. George Watkins, of Brisbane, to write an article on this subject. He is, I understand, one of the best authorities on the Dugong, and its habits, and the extraction of oil. When in Queensland, some years ago, the writer had many interesting chats with him, and found him brimful of information on the subject. En passant, it might be interesting to your readers to know that Cod Liver Oil is practically unobtainable in Adelaide.

Adelaide Fire Office.

The Adelaide Fire Office has been moved from Pirie-street and the management vested in Mr. Daly, of Hosking and Ryan, agents. Mr. W. H. Porter and E. F. Gryst and C. H. Nitschke have resigned from the directorate, and Mr. Nicholls, the manager, has been transferred to Sydney as an inspector. Mr. Ryan has been appointed a director, with Mr. Druitt managing director. There is no chemist on the directorate at present.

General.

Miss Ethel S. Leon, a Victorian pharmacist, has been on a visit to Adelaide.

The Retail Chemists' Defence Association has introduced another new line, "Sonia Snow," and has made arrangements to get a supply of comforters. Members should apply at once.

An Exhibition of preparations (Australian made) to replace German ones is to be held in June at the rooms of the British Medical Association. It is to be hoped that manufacturers will take advantage of this to show what preparations can be made here, and that they are quite as good as imported.

Western Australia.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Pharmaceutical Society of Western Australia.

24th Annual Meeting.

The twenty-fourth Annual Meeting of the Society was held at the Technical School, Perth, on Thursday, March 30, 1916. There were present Messrs. Tilly (President), Howling, Lorman, F. Southee, W. Richardson, Neale, W. R. Read, I. N. Berks, Priestly, Parry, Gulley, Allan, Cooke, Braddock, Fordham, Sagar, and Mayhew.

The report of the Council for the year 1915, including the yearly statement of receipts and disbursements, were received, and unanimously adopted.

The President, in reviewing the report, stated that it was the sixth anniversary of his having the honour of presenting same, and he trusted that every member of the Society was satisfied with the work attempted to be done; at any rate, he thought he could safely say for the Councillors as a body, it was a labour of love. He took the opportunity of thanking Councillors, Examiners, and all other officers for ready help during the past year, and the position of the Society was good, and he considered would not suffer in comparison with similar bodies elsewhere. Legislation had been carefully watched, and in reference to the amendment of the Health Act, commonly referred to as the C.D.A. The legitimate interests of the pharmacist had been fully guarded. The Registrar had included in his report an excerpt of the Act, which should make the matter clear to all concerned.

Members must be gratified with the high percentage of passes at the examinations. This was as it should be—the facilities being exceptionally good. In the opinion of a South Australian pharmacist, whom he had the pleasure lately of showing over the Technical School, the arrangements were excellent.

He again expressed a hope that the necessity of drawing attention to non-compliance with the provisions of the Early Closing Act would not recur.

P.D.L.—Although the membership in W.A. contrasted well with that of some of the other States, he trusted that, in consideration of the trend of future events, every member would join the ranks of this most important organisation.

He understood that another class of the St. John Ambulance for pharmacists only would be conducted during the present year, whereby many members would be enabled to gain further certificates from that body.

A new Council having been elected on the previous day, he trusted that whoever was appointed to fill the position, which he had now occupied for over five years, would receive the same helpful support from everyone concerned as he had done.

In concluding, he desired to say that it would give him much pleasure to donate an honour board, to contain the names of all those connected with the Society who had enlisted, in order to uphold the honour and integrity of the Empire and the Commonwealth.

Presentation of Medals.

The President asked the Director of Technical Education, Mr. F. B. Allen, M.A., B.Sc., at this stage, to present the various medals donated by the Society to successful students. In doing so, the Director stated that it always gave him the greatest pleasure to act in this capacity. He was gratified to be able to assist the Council in their laudable efforts to make the students thoroughly efficient. The Webster Memorial Medal was presented to Mr. H. L. Longbottom, who also received, as proxy, the gold medal won by Mr. D. S. Davies, now a member of the A.I.F., and unfortunately at present in hospital suffering from an attack of measles. Mr. R. Green was the recipient of the Silver Medal gained in the Intermediate Examination, and Mr. E. Parry, on behalf of Mr. C. M. Saunders (gone to the front), the Silver Medal for the Preliminary Examination.

Mr. E. Parry proposed a vote of thanks to the President and Council for the good work and ability shown by them during the last three years. This was carried unanimously.

The President, in response, stated that, in his opinion, that whatever good had been accom-

of which was in evidence the oneness of purpose pervading the Council—Society first, themselves second—was their watchword, and he trusted this spirit long would ever continue.

The Registrar fully explained what had been done up to the present in regard to improving the position of the pharmacist in the Army Medical Corps. He stated that his appointment as Senior Pharmacist had not yet been confirmed. In re the amendment of the Health Bill, pharmacists had informed him that patients objected to their names being handed in as being affected with the various diseases. He wished to point out that this was not the case. Medical men had certainly to report cases, but names had not to be sent in; and, further, that the divulging of any such information by any person employed in the administration of the Act was met by a penalty of one hundred pounds.

Mr. J. P. Gulley proposed a vote of thanks to the Registrar for the very live interest taken by him in everything connected with the Society, and, notwithstanding his recent illness, for the immense amount of work performed by him. The motion was carried unanimously.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the presiding officer.

Pharmaceutical Council of Western Australia.

The 250th meeting was held on April 13th, 1916, at Perth Technical School.

Present—Messrs. Tilley (Chairman), George, Sagar, Lorman, Parry, Gulley, and Howling.

The minutes having been read, and the returning officer's report having been received, that the gentlemen as above mentioned had been duly elected as Councillors for the ensuing three years, the election of President was proceeded with, to which honourable position Mr. E. A. Sagar was unanimously elected. Mr. Sagar then took the chair, and proceeded to thank the Councillors for this evident token of their esteem. He trusted that, during the term of his office, much benefit would accrue to the pharmacists of the State, and pharmacy generally, and that the present dreadful war would be ended, when those members who had left the State to fight the battles of their King and country would have returned safe and sound with world-wide ideas for the benefit of the craft. He trusted that the unity of purpose that had marked the career of the last Council would still continue to prevail. Mr. Parry, as the oldest member of the Council, congratulated Mr. Sagar upon his having attained the blue ribbon, as it were, of the Society. He had known him from a boy, and felt certain that he would maintain the position with care and ability. He stated that his experience, and he felt sure Mr. Tilley would bear him out, was that the position entailed much sacrifice of time and the use of much tact. It is an easy thing to be landed in trouble, but, fortunately, in the past the Society had generally been able to come out on top, and it was ever necessary to keep our end up, in the many difficulties that surrounded us. Mr. Gulley, in supporting Mr. Parry, said that the election of Mr. Sagar gave him great satisfaction. He had worked with him in another place, and he felt sure that he would have a successful career as President. Mr. George and Mr. Tilly also reiterated, that, in their opinions, Mr. Sagar would be found to be the right man in the right place. Mr. Gulley was elected as Treasurer, and Mr. F. R. Plummer, as Returning Officer, was re-elected.

Examiners and Auditors.—These were all re-elected.

Chemist Fees Paid.—G. D. C. Murdoch, T. McDowell, F. Southee, E. Gilbert.

Apprentices Registered.—A. J. Schroter to F. E. Gibson, of Fremantle, and Ethel Bregenzer to Alexander Tronchet, of Perth.

Nurses.—A communication from Commissioner of Health was received as to the advisability of chemists sending in a monthly return of Ergot preparations obtained by nurses—the Registrar to see into the matter, and report. A communication was also received re nurses getting dispensing certificates from certain hospitals in the eastern States. Fortunately, there is no trouble at present in this direction in Western Australia, and every care will be taken to see that it does not occur.

A.M.C.—Lieutenant George stated that he had already been asked to report upon the various camp dispensaries, and that he would lose no time in forwarding same to the principal medical officer. The nomination of this gentleman as Senior Pharmacist at the special meeting of the Council, held 6th April, was confirmed.

The 251st meeting held 4th May, 1916, at the Perth Technical School.

Present.—Messrs. Sagar (President), Tilly, George, Lorman, Gulley, Parry and Howling.

New Council.—The Colonial Secretary wrote that the Council had been duly gazetted—Mr. E. A. Sagar, President.

A.M.C.—Applications for positions therein received from several provincial pharmacists—to be referred to the Senior Pharmacist.

Trade Mark Voidance.—Commonwealth Gazette in regard to these, received from Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia, with thanks.

Apprentice.—The registration of R. A. J. Maynard to J. Boileau, Kalgoorlie, approved.

C.D.A.—A circular letter enclosing a copy of Health Act, received from Commissioner Public Health. The wording of same was considered satisfactory. Resolved that a copy be sent to every member.

Poisonings.—The following letter was forwarded to the principal newspapers throughout the State, also the Colonial Secretary for his information: "I am directed by the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Western Australia, administering the Poison Act of this State, to respectfully suggest that in all future references to cases of suicidal (and perhaps accidental) poisoning, appearing in your valued paper, the specific names of the poison used be omitted from such reports. No good purpose can possibly be served by the publication of these various means of taking life—but on the other hand suggestion may be withheld from persons of a like morbid temperament. Trusting that you may be able to fall in with the above suggestion. I am, etc., etc., etc."

Tasmania.

Pharmacy Board of Tasmania.

The regular meeting of the Board was held on 20th April, at 10 a.m.

Present.—Messrs. T. James, H. T. Gould and H. Sidwell, Messrs. Rushton and Everhard sent apologies. Mr. H. T. Gould presided.

Minutes of previous meeting were read, and confirmed as correct.

Science Conference.—Mr. C. E. Towl wrote, accepting the position of President of the Pharmaceutical Section, and thanking the Board for the honour conferred upon him.

March Examinations.—Mr. Everhard wrote, conveying a complaint from the Tasmanian Preliminary candidate that some of the questions set in the algebra paper were outside the scope of the syllabus, and the Registrar was instructed to refer the matter to the examiner for remarks.

Registration.—Mr. J. W. McGrath applied for registration on his South Australian credentials, and the paper being found in order, the application was approved, and ordered to be registered.

June Examinations.—The date was fixed for the 14th and 15th.

Mr. H. L. Hastings.—Registrar reported that Mr. Hastings had applied for registration in Tasmania, but that next day he had withdrawn his application.

Registrar drew attention to a press notice that the Zeehan Medical Union were moving in the direction of having the Pharmacy Act amended to allow of the Dispensary selling to the public, but owing to the small attendance, the matter was deferred.

Storekeepers Selling.—Registrar reported that warning notices had been sent to G. H. Lawson and A. E. Kippax.

Mr. H. D. Paul wrote from Adelaide, asking date of June Examinations. Information to be supplied.

The New South Wales Registrar wrote, conveying the information that the name of Henry Edward Perry had been struck off the N.S.W. roll, by order of His Excellency the Governor.

Reciprocity.—Registrar reported that a Tasmanian chemist had interviewed him with a view to being registered in Victoria, while retaining his Tasmanian membership. Resolved that the matter be referred to the Victorian Board for remarks.

Safe.—This matter was also held over, owing to the small attendance.

Papers Tabled.—Annual Report of the Pharmacy Board of New Zealand, 1916, and Pharmaceutical Council of Western Australia, 1915.

Finance.—Accounts amounting to £5/19/6 were passed for payment.

Vote of Sympathy.—On the motion of Mr. Sidwell, seconded by Mr. James, a very sincere vote of sympathy was tendered to Mr. Gould on the loss he had sustained by the death of his son.

Notice of Motion.—Mr. James gave notice of motion for next meeting as follows:—"Any candidate who has passed the Junior Public Examination, and either omitted to sit for or failed in one of the following subjects, English, Arithmetic, Algebra, Geometry, or Latin, shall be allowed to take the single subject at the Preliminary Examination held by the Board, and so entitle him to become registered as an apprentice."

P.A.T.A.

Messrs. Allen and Hanburys' Foods.

The "Allenbury" Foods.

Messrs. Allen and Hanburys Ltd., Sydney, have forwarded a circular letter to every retailer in the Melbourne metropolitan district, drawing attention to the new P.A.T.A. minimum retail rates for the "Allenbury" Foods. They point out that they have spent much money and time in assisting retailers in New South Wales and Queensland in maintaining prices which guarantee a fair margin of profit, and for the mutual benefit of all concerned, the firm asks for the co-operation of retail pharmacists and grocers to whom the circular above referred to has been posted. It is also pointed out that the protected prices have been freely advertised, and attention is drawn to the fact that the wholesale distributing agents are being instructed not to supply the "Allenbury" Foods to firms selling below the fixed minimum prices. Stress is laid on the shortsighted policy of price-cutting, which is not consistent with the good feeling which should exist amongst traders. The circular is opportune, and shows a wholehearted disposition on the part of Messrs. Allen and Hanburys Ltd., to put a stop to the cutting of their foods, concerning which complaints have recently been made.

Altered Victorian Prices.

The Secretary of the P.A.T.A. of Victoria notifies that the following are the fixed minimum prices of lines which have been listed or altered since the publication of the last Protected List:—

	Wholesale.		Retail
"KEPHIRIN"—			
No. 1	29/6 per doz.	per bottle	3/3
No. 2	105/- ,,	,,	11/-
CAMPHENOL—			
No. 1	6/- per doz.	per bottle	9d.
No. 2	20/- ,,	,,	2/3
HEAN'S TONIC NERVE NUTS—			
	29/- per doz.	per bottle	3/-
Unbroken	28/- ,,		—
3-doz. lots	27/6 ,,	six bottles for	17/3
6-doz. lots	27/- ,,		—
GERMICIDAL SOAP—			
(P. D. & Co.)	13/- per doz.	per cake	1/6
"KEPHIRIS" POWDER—			
7/- per oz. for a single oz.			—
6/4 per oz. for 8 ozs.			—
6/- per oz. for 16 ozs.			—

Legal.

Misreading of Prescription Fatal Result.

Chemist Censured by Coroner.

(Specially reported for the *Australasian Journal of Pharmacy.*)

At the Morgue, Melbourne, on April 20, the Coroner (Dr. R. H. Cole) held an inquest concerning the death of Edwin Standley, 39, single, clerk to engineer, who died at his residence, 35 Charles street, Kew, on March 20.

Noe Standley, teacher of languages, said that deceased was his son. On March 20, two hours after his son's death, he went to Mr. J. H. Lakeland's pharmacy at Kew, to satisfy himself with regard to the cause of death. On entering the pharmacy he asked Mr. Lakeland whether there would be any objection to his examining the prescription book. Mr. Lakeland said there was none, and brought forward the book, which he placed on the counter. Witness asked to see the prescription numbered 83,007. Mr. Lakeland turned up this number and then said that it was not the prescription which had been prescribed for witness's son. He said that he had not entered that prescription in his book, but he had a perfect recollection of what it contained. Witness then asked Mr. Lakeland if he remembered the doctor's directions as to how the draft was to be administered. Mr. Lakeland replied: "Yes. A tablespoonful 'hora somni.'" Witness said, "You are quite right." He then took the bottle which contained the medicine out of his pocket, and said to Mr. Lakeland, pointing to the label, "This is not 'somni.' Your directions say a tablespoonful to be taken every hour.'" Mr. Lakeland said, "Oh! I remember; it was 'hora omni.'" Witness then asked Mr. Lakeland who wrote the label. Mr. Lakeland said that he did not write it, but dictated it. Witness said, "Well do you know what has been the result? It has caused my son's death."

To Mr W. E. Pearcey (who appeared to watch the case on behalf of Mr. Lakeland): He did not suggest that Mr. Lakeland had altered his prescription book. When he asked to see the number in the prescription book, he at once saw that it was not the prescription ordered for his son. His son had been ill for four or five days suffering from rheumatic fever. He had had previous prescriptions made up by Mr. Lakeland. His son also suffered from an abscess in his ear, which deprived him of his sleep. Witness was not present when the sleeping draught was administered. The first dose was given at 10 p.m. Shortly before that time his son seemed fairly well, but was suffering great pain. About 1 o'clock in the morning he was called in to see his son. He was then in a state of prostration, and was almost comatose. Dr. Cooke was sent for, and arrived about 20 minutes later. The doctor did all he could to revive his son. At one moment he recovered consciousness sufficiently to say he was alright. He then suffered relapse, and died a little after 6 a.m.

To the Coroner: Three doses of the medicin were given. Dr. Cooke had been attending h son for three or four days prior to his deatl His son had been complaining of illness befor Dr. Cooke was summoned. He was not o robust health, and had contracted malaria som time ago in Queensland. He had had an attaci of diphtheria in 1891, and rheumatic fever in 1892.

Dr. John Brett, legally qualified medical practitioner, 102 Collins-street, Melbourne, said that the result of the post mortem examination showed that deceased was of slight build and extremely emaciated. His heart showed signs of degeneration, and the spleen was enlarged. His general health was bad. The heart, kidneys and spleen were diseased.

To the Coroner: Death was due to heart failure and coma. His heart was in such a condition that he was liable to die at any moment. The post mortem showed that the cause of death was disease of the heart and kidneys.

Dr. Cole: Look at that prescription. If taken as directed would it have affected deceased's condition.

Dr. Brett: The prescription says "at the hour of sleep" which means "to be taken at bed time."

Dr. Cole: The first letter of "somni" looks like an "o."

Dr. Brett: I would not read it so. It is not like the "o" that follows. In my opinion the words "hora somni" on the prescription are plainly written.

Dr. Cole: Was the medicine in any way responsible for his death?

Dr. Brett: I do not think so. It might have accelerated it, but it did not cause it. It is dangerous to give morphia at all in cases of kidney disease. Deceased was given ½ of a grain of morphia within a period of two hours. This certainly was, in my opinion, a dangerous dose.

To Mr Pearcey: The symptoms of morphia poisoning were that the patient went off to sleep, and in many cases he never woke up again. If the sleeping draught had been given to a normal person it would not be dangerous.

Mr. Pearcey: The chemist did not know anything about the disease.

Dr. Cole: It was the chemist's duty to carry out the doctor's orders.

Mr Pearcey: The chemist might easily misread this prescription.

Dr. Cole: I cannot see that he should have experienced any difficulty in reading it.

Charles E. Price, Government Medico-Legal Analyst, stated that he had examined the contents left in the bottle of medicine produced. There was about half an ounce of fluid in the bottle which he found, on analysis, to contain traces of morphine, bromide, sugar and water. He did not detect any hyoscyamus owing to the small quantity handed to him for analysis. He examined the stomach of deceased, which was forwarded to him, for the presence of morphine, with negative results.

To the Coroner: He did not detect more than one tenth of a grain of morphine in the medicine. A poisonous dose of morphia was

SALVARSAN AND NEOSALVARSAN

EFFECTIVE SUBSTITUTES.

GALYL

GALYL is tetraoxydiphosphaminodiarsenobenzene and has been discovered by Dr. Mouneyrat.

It is found in the form of a clean yellow powder, liable to change when exposed to the air.

GALYL is as effective as SALVARSAN or NEOSALVARSAN on Spirochætes and Trypanosomes and free from the neurotropic and congestive actions of these preparations.

For Intravenous Injections—

(1) DILUTE—GALYL is supplied in neutral glass ampoules containing the necessary dose of Sodium Carbonate. Sterile distilled water being only used for the dissolution.

(2) CONCENTRATED A special outfit containing one dose GALYL, one ampoule sterilised solution, and one small filter is supplied.

DOSES: 0·20—0·25—0·30—0·35—0·40.

For *Intramuscular Injections* GALYL is supplied in oily emulsion.

DOSES: 0·20—0·30—0·40.

Ref., B.M.J., 14/3/14—12/9/14.
LANCET, 18/9/15.

HECTINE

HECTINE is Sodii Benzo-sulph-p-amino-phenyl arsonas.

HECTINE consists of colourless needles, very soluble in water, containing approximately 21 per cent. of arsenic.

The preparation is put up in sterile ampoules for *Intramuscular Injections*—

AMPOULES A containing 10 cg. in 1 c.c.
AMPOULES B ,, 20 cg. in 1 c.c.
PILLS ,, 10 cg.

Ref., THE LANCET, 26/6/15—"Severe cases of intractable syphillis treated satisfactorily with Hectine."

HECTARGYRE

Mercurial salt of HECTINE, a combined arsenico-mercurial treatment of Syphillis, especially recommended after a course of Galyl.

The preparation is put up in sterile ampoules for *Intramuscular Injections*—

AMPOULES A containing
Hectine - 10 cg.
Hg. - 1 cg. in 1 c.c.
AMPOULES B Containing
Hectine - 20 cg.
Hg. - 1 cg. in 1 c.c.
PILLS containing
Hectine - 10 cg.
Protoiod of Hg. 1 cg.
Opium Extract 1 cg.
In Phials of 24 Pills.

Supplies may be obtained from:—

ELLIOTT BROTHERS, Sydney and Brisbane. **A. M. BICKFORD & SON, Adelaide.**
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from ¾ of a grain to 5 grains. He could not express any opinion as to whether there was sufficient morphia in the bottle to cause death.

To Mr. Pearcey: The amount of morphia a man might take depended on his past history. It was quite possible that larger quantities could be taken if a person had become accustomed to it.

Henry W. J. Cooke said that he was a legally qualified medical practitioner, practising at Kew. Deceased was a patient of his, and he attended him about March 20. He was then suffering from symptoms of malaria, and also had a septic ear. After attending him for a day or two he developed acute inflammation in his joints. Witness attributed this to acute rheumatism or a suppurating ear. He examined his urine and found traces of albumen. The patient was suffering very intense pain, and had no sleep practically all the time witness was attending him. At 2 p.m. on March 28 deceased's sister called on him at his surgery. She said her brother had had no sleep and was suffering great agony. Witness said, "I will give you a draught to give him to-night to ease the pain. There will be four doses in the bottle. Give him one dose at the usual hour of sleep? Do not use a tablespoon in measuring the medicine. Get a measure glass, and be careful, as it is quite possible to give your brother too much of the medicine."

To the Coroner: I gave her to understand that only one dose was to be given. I wrote on the prescription "hora somni," which is the usual term used. Had I intended the medicine to be taken every hour I would not have written "hora omni," but "omni hora," the latter being the customary way of writing "every hour" on prescriptions. In my opinion there should have been no doubt as to what was meant. The prescription was an ordinary one. Taken every three hours it would affect, but would not kill a normal man. I would not have ordered such a mixture to be given hourly. I might order it to be given every three hours. On the morning after Miss Standley's visit I was again summoned to attend the patient. I arrived at the house about 4.30 a.m., and found deceased in a semi-comatose condition, but not completely unconscious. The pupils of the eye were somewhat contracted under the influence of opium. Miss Standley informed me that her brother had had three doses of the medicine. Mr Standley, senior, showed me the label on the bottle, and said that the directions did not correspond with the prescription. Miss Standley said that the directions on the bottle caused her to give the three doses. She told him (witness) that the first dose had no effect. She, therefore, gave him a second dose, which failed to induce sleep

Dr. Cole: Was his condition then worse than after an ordinary sleeping dose?

Dr. Cooke: Yes. The pulse was weak and rapid, and indicated a tendency to heart failure. I at once adopted strong restorative methods, injecting strychnine and ether, and giving the patient whisky and strong coffee. Deceased rallied for a while, but subsequently collapsed and died. I informed Mr. Standley, senior, that I could not see my way to give him a certificate of death. I then brought the matter under the notice of the Coroner, and on his advice reported the death to the police.

To Mr. Pearcey: After hearing the results of the post mortem, I am of opinion that deceased was likely to die at any time from heart failure. I had previously given him other prescriptions. I first prescribed quinine for the malaria. Another prescription which I gave him to ease the pain in his joints contained salicylates. When I saw the patient at 4.30 a.m. on March 29 he was under the influence of morphia. The usual symptoms of morphia poisoning are somnolence, coma and contracted pupils. It has not been my experience that the usual symptoms of morphia poisoning are first, excitement; second, depression; and third, stupor.

Mr. Pearcey: A person in the habit of taking morphia could take a fairly large dose?—Yes.

Had you any knowledge whether deceased had been in the habit of taking morphia?—I did not inquire.

A dose by the mouth has less effect than if administered hypodermically?—Yes. My general practice is to give an injection. I had to give him morphia because he was in such agonising pain.

To the Coroner: The prescription was a very ordinary sleeping draught. It was fairly common to administer a sleeping draught at hourly intervals, but in this case the interval was too short.

Dr. Cole: Why did you not only give him one dose?—I knew the pain would last, so I prescribed four doses—one dose to be given each night. I told Miss Standley only to give him one dose.

Dr. Cole: She followed the directions on the bottle instead of following you.—Yes.

Mr. Pearcey: In the case of an ordinary sleeping draught, is it not often the practice to give it until sleep is induced?—Yes.

To Mr. Standley: I told your daughter to give deceased one tablespoonful only and to give it by measure glass. When I called in the early morning your daughter told me she had given him three doses.

Mr. Standley: Is there any doubt that owing to your directions not being carried out my son's death was hastened?

Dr. Cooke: In my opinion I think it was hastened.

Mr. Standley: My daughter has no recollection of what you say you told her about giving the medicine only once.

Jessie Standley, sister of deceased, said that when she called at Dr. Cooke's surgery she asked the doctor to make up a sleeping draught to make her brother sleep, as he was in great pain. Dr. Cooke wrote out the prescription, and said: "I will write out four doses." He said, "Have you got a measure glass?" I said, "No." He said, "It will be necessary to get one." I took the prescription, and went to Mr. Lakeland's pharmacy. I saw Mr. Lakeland himself and asked him to make up the prescription. He said, "It is a very small quantity, but it is what the doctor ordered." I did not read what was on the bottle. I gave the

[illegible] At 11 o'clock, according to [illegible] a third dose. He then said [illegible] I will go to sleep now." [illegible] leaving my sister to look after [illegible] the morning she could not [illegible] brother looked very strange [illegible] saw that he was dying. [illegible] Dr. Cooke's brewery and [illegible] The doctor seemed very much [illegible] as if I had given him a [illegible] I told him I had given the three doses. He said, "Goodness me!" My [illegible] a quarter past six. I have no [illegible] the doctor tell me to only [illegible] He may have done so, but [illegible] at the time.

By Mr. [illegible]: When I took the prescription [illegible] I said I would wait for the [illegible] in a hurry. Mr. Lakeland [illegible] for me. I asked him about the price, and he said "do not worry about that now."

By Mr. Standley: I have no knowledge that my [illegible].

Lewis Herbert Lakeland, registered pharmaceutical chemist, carrying on business at the corner of High and Princess streets, Kew, said he remembered Miss Standley coming in on March 28. She handed him the prescription produced:

"Mr E. Standley.

℞	Morphia Sulph.	gr. i
	Sod. Brom.	ʒ i
	Tinct. Hyoscy.	ʒ ii
	Syr. Aurant.	ʒ ii
	Aq.	ad. ʒ ii

ʒ ss. hora somni.

(sgd.) H.W.J.C."

Miss Standley was in a great hurry at the time. When she handed him the prescription, she told witness that it would take a quarter to four to make [illegible] that it be washed, he would send the [illegible] to get. She said that she would wait [illegible] as she was in a hurry and wanted to give [illegible] last dose. It was about a quarter past [illegible] when she called. He did not remember [illegible] anything more to her. He then made up the mixture himself. The number of [illegible] on the bottle should represent the corresponding number in the prescription book. The reason why it varied from the number in the book was that he had to use Mr Standley's [illegible]. This mixture was due to the fact that the ordinary was wanted in a great hurry. He therefore put aside another prescription he was dispensing, and started at once to make up Mr Standley's mixture. To avoid [illegible] numbers, he assigned "N. 83,007" to Mr Standley's prescription. Before he made up the medicine, a customer came in and handed him another prescription, from Mrs Wilson. In the hurry he wrapped up Mr Standley's prescription with the bottle of medicine and handed it to her, without entering it in the prescription book. He then made up the next prescription, which bore the same number as Mr Standley's. Witness noticed that he had omitted to enter the latter in the book, so entered the second prescription under the number 83,007. He made up Mr. Standley's medicine correctly according to the quantities and doses ordered. When he got the prescription, he looked at the directions carefully, and read them to be "hora omn.," which was a common way for doctors to write "a tablespoonful every hour." He knew now that the doctor intended "hora somni," which meant "to be taken at bed time." He did not type the label himself, but dictated it to his typist, who gave him the label back. He then examined it again with the prescription and satisfied himself that the medicine was made up and labelled as directed by the doctor. The next morning when Mr Standley called, he went to the prescription book at his request, and then found that he had failed to enter the prescription. While he was getting the book Mr. Standley took a bottle from his pocket and quoted the number on it. Witness turned up the book, found the corresponding number, and at once saw that it did not correspond with Mr. Standley's prescription. Witness told Mr. Standley he could remember what the prescription contained, and he named each of the drugs, winding up by giving the directions, "hora omn"—"one tablespoonful every hour." Mr. Standley then said: "It was not hora omn., but hora somni. You have made a mistake in labelling the mixture. I do not intend to take any action, but I thought it my duty to come and tell you of your error as a warning in future." Mr. Standley then left the shop.

To Mr. Pearcey: My recollection is that Mr. Standley had the prescription with him, and showed it to me.

Mr. Standley: I did not. It was the doctor who had the prescription.

To the Coroner: When he got the prescription, he took it to the dispensing counter, and made it up himself. His typist and accountant were in a room at the back auditing the books. When he had finished making up the medicine, he called the typist, and told her to write the label—"one tablespoonful every hour"—giving her the number and the name. She typed the label and handed it to him.

Mr. Pearcey, in addressing the Coroner, said that his client must now admit that a regrettable mistake had been made in interpreting the doctor's directions. At the same time, he, Mr. Pearcey, thought that the prescription might easily be read as "hora omn." In a case of this sort, culpable negligence must be shown, before a person could be committed for manslaughter, and the result of that neglect must be clear. Mr. Standley was shown to have had heart disease, and other organs in his body were also diseased. The fact that he woke up when the medicine had been given, and commenced talking to the doctor, showed that he was not in a state of stupor. There had been some negligence, but not such as had led to the patient's death. The error was an error of judgment for which his client could not be held liable. He quoted a leading case as indicating the degree of negligence which was necessary to warrant a verdict of manslaughter being returned against a chemist.

The Coroner said: "This is one of these cases which, to my mind, does not constitute gross

negligence, but some degree of blame is certainly attachable to the chemist. The deceased, no doubt, died from heart failure and coma; he suffered from a degenerate heart, his kidneys were also diseased, and he was in that condition when it was extremely dangerous to give him a drug such as morphia. Dr. Cooke was aware of this when he prescribed the medicine, and according to his evidence, he took special precautions regarding the administration of the drug. The patient's condition was apparently hopeless. He was suffering great pain, and the doctor had to choose between one danger and another. Unfortunately, Miss Standley gave deceased three doses, and these three doses contained three-quarters of a grain of morphia, which in a normal case would not be poisonous, although it might induce stupor. There is no doubt that the death of this person was accelerated by the drug. The question now arises whether there is any criminal neglect. We now come to a very curious state of facts, namely, that the prescription contained the words hora somni. In my opinion, the prescription seems plain enough, although the 's' looks like an 'o' to some extent. Still, it is not written like an 'o.' It is written in a peculiar fashion. The chemist says that he took it for 'hora omni—every hour,' and he made up the prescription and directed that the label be typed accordingly, but he omits to copy the prescription into his book, and the number on the prescription does not correspond with the number in the book. No. 83,997 in the book is something prescribed for a baby. The chemist has certainly been guilty of neglect. In the first place, he did not read the prescription right, and in the second place he failed to enter the prescription in the book. The prescription book is a very important check on a pharmacist's work. Chemists are engaged in a dangerous calling. They handle very powerful drugs, and the law, therefore, requires a greater degree of care than is considered necessary in ordinary cases. Pharmacists are bound to exercise reasonable care in every case. That is to say, they must not make mistakes which show either ignorance or great inattention. There is a degree of negligence in this case, but not such as to constitute felonious negligence. Fortunately for us all, these cases are extremely rare. The misreading of prescriptions is not at all common. The chemist has made a mistake, and has certainly shown some carelessness, but according to a leading case, which has been cited, he is not criminally liable. I therefore find a verdict of death by misadventure.

Formulary.

Palatable Epsom Salts.

The *Bulletin of Pharmacy* suggested following formula:—

Magnesium sulphate	1 oz.
Solution of saccharin	1 drachm
Oil of peppermint	2 drops
Oil of anise	2 drops
Water, enough to make	2 oz.

Dissolve the sulphate in the water, add the other ingredients and filter.

Ipecac for Pyorrhea Alveolaris.

A valuable mouthwash containing ipecac to be used as a preventive of reinfection and as a remedy in the treatment of pyorrhea alveolaris is the following, according to a paper on "Recent Discoveries Concerning the Etiology and Treatment of Pyorrhea Alveolaris," by Dr. F. E. Stewart, which appeared in the May issue of the *Mulford Digest*:

Ipecac	8 grains
Zinc chloride	2 grains
Beta-naphthol	½ grain
Solution of formaldehyde (40%) ..	1-3 minim
Menthol	⅛ gram
Alcohol (55%), sufficient to make ..	1 fluid oz.

College Notes.

Ethereal Soap Solution.

An Exercise for Pharmaceutical Students.—

The B.P.C. Formula is as follows:—

Oleic acid	35.00	7 fl. oz.
Potassium Hydroxide Sol. saturated, a sufficient quantity.		
Alcohol	15.00	3 fl. oz.
Oil of Lavender	0.20	20 mins.
Methylated Ether (s.g. 0.720) to 100.00	to	20 fl. oz.

The only outstanding difficulty in preparing ether soap according to this formula lies in striking the exact neutral point with a concentrated solution of potassium hydroxide.

This may be overcome by determining the acidity of the Oleic Acid and comparing it with the alkalinity of the Potassium Hydroxide. The young pharmacist, if he has not already studied an exercise of this kind, will find this interesting.

The Oleic Acid is titrated in alcoholic solution with N/ NaOH, using phenolphthalein as an indicator. The Potassium Hydroxide is titrated in the usual way against N/ H_2SO_4, using methyl-orange as an indicator. In an experiment the following factors were obtained:—

5 c.c. Oleic Acid = 16 c.c. N/ NaOH
10 c.c. Oleic Acid = 32 c.c. N/ NaOH
and 100 c.c. Oleic Acid = 320 c.c. N/ NaOH
1.526 grams Potassium Hydroxide = 23.3 c.c. N/ H_2SO_4,
and
21 grams Potassium Hydroxide = 320 c.c. N/ H_2SO_4.

The NaOH and H_2SO_4 solutions both being normal, it follows that 100 c.c. of Oleic Acid are neutralised by 21 grams of the Potassium Hydroxide. In the B.P.C. formula 350 grams of Oleic Acid are required for 1000 c.c. of soap solution; by proportion this will require 73.5 grams of Potassium Hydroxide. Dissolve this in the least possible quantity of water and proceed as the B.P.C. directs.

Note.—The proportion of alcohol might with advantage be increased by one-third, owing to the prevailing high temperature in Australia, especially during the summer months.

A. P. F.

Liquor Cresolis Compositus.

[illegible] experience in preparing [illegible] may have found some [illegible] owing to the product not [illegible] form a clear solution. This [illegible] drawing up the A.P.F. formula a monograph was [illegible] work, cresol, in which certain tests [illegible] each monograph on cresol is often [illegible] the operator may start preparing [illegible] cresolis compositus without having [illegible] ascertained the quality of the [illegible] As the substance frequently contains [illegible] which are not saponifiable, his [illegible] as satisfactory as he anticipated.

There are [illegible] forms of cresol on the market which contain small quantities of hydrocarbons. Unless they are present in traces the product of the A.P.F. will be sure to [illegible] mixture with water. It has come to my knowledge that some pharmaceutical chemists have given up making this preparation in consequence of this.

Several formulæ have been published for making [illegible] substitute, but of all those published the A.P.F. preparation possesses the advantage in that the product is more readily mixible with water and is not so laden with saponaceous matter as others.

The B.P. formula for liquor cresol saponatus has [illegible] certain advantages, in that the [illegible] the soap carries small quantities of [illegible] into solution better than the [illegible] of the A.P.F.

[illegible] may be modified with advantage to the potassium hydroxide [illegible] to use only a half to twice the [illegible] amount of the weight of [illegible] need before adding the cassia [illegible] process of saponification is simplified [illegible] soap solution as prepared [illegible] the water are added.

[illegible] as is used for lubricating [illegible] quite suitable for this [illegible]

[illegible] the cresol with the castor oil [illegible] considerable reduces oxidation [illegible]

[illegible] with castor oil [illegible] mixtures of [illegible] talkah, with [illegible] [illegible] system of [illegible] [illegible] The water has not [illegible] that yet. Potassium [illegible]

[illegible] and must [illegible] exhaustive [illegible]

R.C.C.

Reviews.

A Critical Revision of the Genus Eucalyptus, by J. H. Maiden, F.R.S., F.L.S., Government Botanist of New South Wales and Director of the Botanic Gardens, Sydney. Vol. III. Parts 5 and 6, being parts 25 and 26 of the complete work. Published by the authority of the Government of New South Wales.

Seven species of Eucalyptus are discussed in the two parts under review, making 130 species thus far critically examined by Mr. Maiden. Of these seven species three have been named by Deane and Maiden. They are Eucalyptus Macarthuri, E. aggregata and E. rubida. The first species considered in part 25 is E. Macarthuri (Camden Woolly-Butt), named after Sir Wm. Macarthur. As far as is known it is only found in a limited area in New South Wales. E. aggregata presents many affinities with E. Macarthuri, but it is known as "black gum"; it is also found in Tasmania, and "the venation of the mature leaves and the shape of the juvenile leaves divide them sharply." E. parvifolia is a rare species, and is only found in the flat land at the head of the Kybean River, N.S.W., at an elevation of about 3500 feet. E. alba is mostly tropical. It extends over the whole of the northern parts of Australia, and is found in the islands of Timor, Flores (Indian), Java and Papua. It has no less than nine reputed synonyms. The juvenile leaves sometimes attain a huge size; one, which is partially figured in an accompanying plate, would, when complete, be about 14 inches long and nearly 12 inches broad. The flower buds are nearly globular. E. Perriniana has juvenile leaves which Mr. Maiden describes as perfoliate. The more correct botanical term would be connate, as the perfoliate appearance is evidently caused by the union of the bases of two opposite leaves. E. Gunnii is a small tree, and is common in swampy places at high elevations. It has been found on Tongiringi Mount, N.S.W., at an elevation of 5100 feet. It yields an abundant, sweetish sap. The last species, E. rubida, is widely diffused. It occurs on lofty ground (up to 5500 feet above sea level) in every State of the Commonwealth save Western Australia. It is of interest to pharmacists from the fact that in dry seasons it yields without incision a considerable quantity of a manna-like substance. This falls to the ground, and can be collected under the trees in considerable quantities. The manna appears to be produced by the atmospheric action in dry weather causing rupture of vessels. Its production does not depend upon the punctures of insects. It is very soluble in water, and disappears from the ground if a shower of rain falls. It appears to possess all the properties of European manna. Mr. Maiden states that "it was manna of this species that I supplied to Dr. L. W. Passmore for his exhaustive paper, 'The Carbohydrates of Manna from E. Gunnii and of Eucalyptus Hemp.'" (Pharm. Journal (3) xxi., 717).

S.P.

Trade & Commerce.

New Opium Regulations.

The following Order was issued by the Federal Customs and Excise Office, on 4th April, 1916, and was forwarded to all licensed importers of opium:—

D'16/5172.
C & E'16/2398.

Dear Sir,—I desire to inform you that advice has been received from the Comptroller-General that the scale of supply of opium preparations has been revised, and the following quantities are now allowed to pharmacists and others for bona fide medical use in lieu of those hitherto issued:—

Solid extract of opium	2 ozs.
Liquid extract of opium	13 ozs.
Tinct. opium	14 lbs.
Gum opium (including powdered opium)	5 ozs.

2. If in any instance it is found that an additional supply is necessary, special inquiry and application should be made before the matter becomes urgent.

3. Attention is directed to decision shown hereunder re conc. tinct. opium:—

The only extracts and tinctures of opium that may now be supplied by licensed importers to retail pharmacists are:—

Official extracts and tinctures of the British Pharmacopoeia:
Battley's Liquor opii sedatious;
Ferris's Nepenthe;
Sydenham's laudanum (Tinctura Opii Crocata);
Squire's Liquor Neconicus, and
Oppenheimer's Nepentegen.

4. For purposes of paragraph 1, the quantities of extract or tincture supplied are to be computed on the basis of the British Pharmacopoeia strength. In the case of Battley's liquor, the equivalent is to be obtained by multiplying the quantity sold by 1.7, such multiple representing the relative opium strength of the preparation as compared with British Pharmacopoeia standard. The other proprietary preparations named are of the same strength as tinct. opii. B.P.

5. As regards morphine, cocaine, heroine and the salts, preparations and derivatives thereof, it will be sufficient for the present if the books as required to be kept show merely the total weekly quantity of each drug sold, without particulars as to names of customers and precise date of supply. If, however, great increases in the sale of any of these drugs suggest improper use, detailed record in regard thereto should be made, and the matter brought under notice.

6. In connection with recording the issue of medicinal opium, no alteration is required in the practice hitherto operative.

7. The Comptroller-General has also issued the following orders, which are transmitted for your information and guidance:—

PROCLAMATION, dated 7.9.'1914—Opium.—With regard to licensed importers who are retail chemists or veterinary surgeons only, the record book provided for in para. 4 (V) (ii.) may be dispensed with in cases where the opium imported is used only for the preparation of medicines put up by them for human or veterinary use.

In each case, however, the licensee must furnish a quarterly statement as to the opium imported, quantity used in manufacture or dispensing, and balance on hand.

A statutory declaration is also required showing that none of the opium referred to has been used otherwise than for bona fide medicinal purposes, nor used, sold, or disposed of either in its original or any other form, under any circumstances indicating the possibility of its being used for smoking or other improper purpose.

By PROCLAMATION dated 7th September, 1914, the importation into Australia of raw opium and prepared opium as defined therein is prohibited absolutely, and the importation of the following, viz.:—

Medicinal Opium, Morphine, Cocaine, and Heroine, as defined in the Proclamation;
The salts of Morphine:
The salts of Cocaine;
The salts and preparations of Heroine which contain more than 0.1 per centum of Heroine:
All preparations (official and non-official, including remedies which are advertised as anti-opium remedies) which contain more than 0.2 per centum of Morphine, or more than 0.1 per centum of Cocaine; and
All new derivatives of Morphine or of Cocaine, or their respective salts, and every other alkaloid of Opium, which may be shown by scientific research, generally recognised, to be liable to similar abuse and productive of like ill-effects;

is prohibited unless imported in accordance with the proclaimed conditions and restrictions.

A further PROCLAMATION dated 25th March, 1915, has been made, declaring that Section 233 B of the Customs Act 1901-14 shall apply to raw opium and prepared opium as defined in the Proclamation dated 7th September, 1914 (Gazette No. 20, of 1.4.'15).

(2) The effect of this is that persons guilty of offences in regard to the importation or unlawful possession of raw opium or prepared opium, as defined, are liable on conviction to imprisonment for not less than three months, and not more than two years, without the alternative of a monetary penalty.

8. A fresh form of security has been received from the Comptroller-General in connection with the issue of licences to import opium, etc., for medicinal purposes, with instructions that securities in such form are to be obtained from all persons holding opium licences, and I shall therefore be glad if you will kindly complete and return the attached form at your earliest convenience.

Yours faithfully,
S. SYMONS,
For Collector of Customs,
Victoria.

Licensed Importers of Opium.

[illegible] may be [illegible] the Collector of [illegible] subject to the follow[illegible] conditions:—

1. The [illegible] shall be imported for [illegible] only.

2. A [illegible] to import the goods in question may be granted by the Collector of Customs for a State to any legally qualified medical practitioner or [illegible] lawfully carrying on business as a wholesale or manufacturing chemist or druggist [illegible] pharmaceutical chemist.

3. A [illegible] to import the goods in question shall [illegible] year, and may be renewed [illegible] for a like period, and may be [illegible] the following form:—

> No. [illegible] Licence to import Opium, Morphine, Cocaine, and Heroine, and their respective Salts, Derivatives, and Preparations.
>
> This is to certify that there set out the name, address, and occupation of licensee), is licensed, for a period of one year from the date hereof, to import for medicinal purposes only—
>
> (a) Medicinal Opium, Morphine, Cocaine, and Heroine, as defined in this Licence;
>
> (b) The salts of Morphine;
>
> (c) The salts of Cocaine;
>
> (d) The salts and preparations of Heroine which contain more than 0.1 per centum of Heroine;
>
> (e) All preparations (official and non-official, including remedies which are advertised as anti-opium remedies) which contain more than 0.2 per centum of Morphine, or more than 0.1 per centum of Cocaine; and
>
> (f) All new derivatives of Morphine or of Cocaine or their respective salts, and every other alkaloid of Opium which may be shown by scientific research generally recognised, to be liable to similar abuse and productive of like ill effects.
>
> Nothing in this Licence shall be held to entitle the holder to import raw Opium or prepared Opium as defined in this licence.
>
> This licence may be renewed from time to time for a further period by the Collector.
>
> In this Licence—
>
> "Opium" means the spontaneously coagulated juice extracted from the capsules of the [illegible], which has only been subjected to [illegible] manipulations for packing and transport.
>
> "Medicinal opium" means raw opium which has been heated to 60 degrees centigrade, and contains not less than 10 per centum of morphine, whether or not it be powdered or granulated or mixed with indifferent materials.
>
> "Morphine" means the principal alkaloid of opium, having the chemical formula $C_{17}H_{19}NO_3$.
>
> "Cocaine" means the principal alkaloid of the leaves of *Erythroxylon Coca*, having the chemical formula $C_{17}H_{21}NO_4$.
>
> "Heroine" means diacetyl morphine, having the chemical formula $C_{21}H_{23}NO_5$.

Form of Bond.

SECURITY, OPIUM, ETC., FOR MEDICINAL PURPOSES.

By this security the subscribers are, pursuant to the Customs Act 1901-1914, bound to the Customs of the Commonwealth of Australia in the sum of ONE HUNDRED POUNDS sterling, subject only to the following conditions, that—

1. If all goods imported by (hereinafter called the importer), pursuant to Licence No. or any renewal thereof issued by the Collector of Customs for the State of VICTORIA in accordance with the proclamation dated 7th September, 1914, published in the Commonwealth Gazette, No. 71, dated 12th idem, are disposed of for medicinal purposes only; and

2. if the importer shall record, in books kept for the purpose, particulars, to the satisfaction of the Collector of Customs, of all the said goods, and of how they are disposed of; and

3. if the importer shall on demand produce to the said Collector, or to any officer of Customs authorised by the Collector, the books so kept and the balance of the said goods on hand at the time the books are so produced; and

4. if the importer shall, prior to the sale of any of the said goods, obtain from the prospective purchaser thereof an undertaking in writing that none of the goods proposed to be purchased will be issued for other than bona fide medicinal purposes, nor sold under circumstances which indicate the possibility of use for smoking opium.

then this security shall be thereby discharged.

In accordance with the terms of the above bond every pharmacist is required to forward to the licensed importer with whom he does business an undertaking in writing that he will only dispose of the opium purchased for bona fide medicinal purposes, and will not sell it under circumstances which indicate the possibility of their being used for opium smoking purposes.

Interstate Commission's Report.

A number of Tariff Reports were submitted by the Interstate Commission, and placed before the Federal Parliament on May 9. The recommendations of interest to pharmacists are as follow:—

Filters.—Reduction from 35 per cent. to 30 per cent. recommended.

Corks.—Item 408. Recommended that the wording of this item be amended to read:—408 (a). Small corks (up to 8 oz. bottles), and cork rings per lb., 1/- general, 1/- preferential; or ad val., 30 per cent. general, 30 per cent. preferential; whichever rate returns the higher duty. (b) Cork bungs and corks, n.e.i., per lb., 6d. general, 5d. preferential; or ad val., 30 per cent. general, 30 per cent. preferential; whichever rate returns the higher duty.

Brushes.—Tooth brushes, 10 per cent. general, free preferential. Hair and nail brushes, 40 per cent. general, 30 per cent. preferential.

Glassware.—Bottle stoppers, n.e.i., 5 per cent. general, free preferential.

Bottles, n.e.i., flasks, and jars, empty, no alteration; bottles, empty, up to and including 5 drams of fluid capacity, 5 per cent. general, free preferential; bottles, fancy ground or cut glass, empty, over 5 drams fluid capacity, and glass stoppers, no alteration; bottles, n.e.i., flasks and jars containing goods not subject to ad valorem duty, and not exempted from duty under item 450. Bottles up to and including capacity of 5 fluid drams, 5 per cent. general, free preferential.

Scientific Glassware.—In the opinion of the Commission all scientific glassware should be exempt from duty, except for preference purposes, but if it is deemed advisable to continue tariff encouragement with the view of developing the industry in Australia it is recommended that the following tariff alterations be made:—In lieu of the present item 448 (b), which reads—Instruments made of glass for measuring the density of liquids, solids, and gases, including hydrometers, saccharometers, lactometers, salimometers, and barkometers—20 per cent. general, 15 per cent. preferential. Insert new sub-items to item 448 as follow:—(b) (1) Glassware, viz., scientific apparatus, instruments, and materials, n.e.i., ad val., 10 per cent. general, free preferential, provided that the Minister may from time to time, by by-law, specify apparatus, instruments, or material to be excluded from this item for the reason that they are commercially manufactured in the Commonwealth, such excluded goods to be charged duty under sub-item (b) (2). (b) (2) Glassware, viz., scientific apparatus, instruments, and materials, n.e.i., excluded from above sub-item (b) (1) by departmental by-law, as provided for in that sub-item, ad val., 35 per cent. general, 25 per cent. preferential.

Surgical Tubing.—Free general and free preferential.

Indiarubber Syringes, enemas, injection bottles, urinals and air pillows, ad. val., 25 per cent. general, 20 per cent. preferential.

Alkalis.—Caustic soda and silicate of soda, in packages of 7lb. and under, caustic soda, in packages of over 7lb., or in sticks (pure soda hydras), silicate of soda in bulk, carbonate, bicarbonate of soda, and soda ash, soda crystals, no alteration.

Sodium peroxide, no alteration.

Chemicals (zinc chloride, acid phosphate of calcium, sulphites and bisulphates of soda, potash, and ammonia), no alteration.

Calcium Carbide.—Carbide of Calcium.—A bounty of £1/10/- per ton on all carbide of calcium of average merchantable quality produced in Australia up to 5000 tons per annum, for a period of three years, the payment of same to be conditional on the manufacturers not charging more for calcium carbide than the average price ruling during the five years ending June 30, 1914, say £12/10/- c.i.f.e., any Australian port.

Disinfectants, Insecticides, etc.—Tar oil, carbolic acid. Crude creosote oil and tar oil, no alteration. Sheep washes and cattle and horses washes, insecticides in liquid form in drums containing not less than 5 gallons, and when in other than liquid form in packages containing not less than 28lb., 5 per cent. general, free preferential; insecticides and disinfectants, n.e.i., no alteration.

Sulphur Candles.—Sulphur candles, no alteration.

Opium for Medicinal Purposes.—Opium, for medicinal purposes only (under departmental by-laws), free general, free preferential; opium contained in any medicinal preparation when such preparation would not be liable to higher duty under any other heading, per lb., 30/-, that the item be abolished.

Glycerine.—Refined glycerine, no alteration.

Rabbit Poison Tablets.—"Bunendo" rabbit poison tablets subject for departmental decision.

New Customs' Regulation.

Prohibited Imports.—The importation into Australia of essences of whisky, rum, brandy and cognac, and oil of cognac or any artificial aroma or essence usable as such has been prohibited by Proclamation.

Australian Spirits Used in the Manufacture of Perfume.

(Excise Regulations 1913, Nos. 76 and 78, and Customs Regulations 1913, No. 130) (T. & C. 16/A.332.)

DRAWBACK at the rate of Ten shillings (10s.) per liquid gallon may be allowed under the provisions of the Excise Regulations 1913 and the Customs Regulations 1913 on Excise duty-paid spirits used in the manufacture of perfume within the Commonwealth, upon compliance with the said Regulations and subject to the Collector being absolutely satisfied in each case that the drawback claimed is properly due.

Provided, however, that in cases where the spirits are removed direct from Customs control to the place of manufacture of the perfume, and such manufacture takes place under the supervision of an officer, drawback may be allowed of the full amount of the Excise duty paid on such spirits.

Drawback ... dated 6th June, 1907, published in the *Commonwealth Gazette*, No. 33, dated 21st June, 1907, is hereby superseded.

FRANK G. TUDOR,
Minister for Trade and Customs.

Melbourne, 3rd May, 1916.

Denatured Soya Bean Oil Used in the Manufacture of Soap.

(Customs Regulations 1913, No. 130) T. & C. (B.9438.)

DRAWBACK of the full amount of duty paid may be allowed under the provisions of the Customs Regulations 1913 on imported Soya Bean Oil denatured as prescribed by Departmental By-law and used in the manufacture of Soap within the Commonwealth, upon compliance with the said Regulations and subject to the following conditions, viz.:—

(1) The said manufacture shall take place under the supervision of an Officer of Customs;

(2) In each case, before drawback is allowed, the Collector shall be absolutely satisfied that the drawback claimed is properly due; and

(3) So long as soap is a restricted export from the Commonwealth, permission for exportation shall in each case be obtained from the Collector before shipment is made.

FRANK G. TUDOR,
Minister for Trade and Customs.

Melbourne, 6th May, 1916.

Extract from the Interstate Commission's Reports.

CORKS.

Application for increased duties was received by the Commission from Vogt Bros. and Co. Pty. Ltd., ... Melbourne. On the other hand, applications were received from the Pharmaceutical Societies of several States, from the Manufacturers' Societies of Victoria and South Australia, from manufacturing chemists and druggists, and as well as from general merchants importers and exporters. Trifling alterations or retentions in the rates or abolition of duties.

The importations of corks, bungs, and rings for the years 1908 and 1913, were approximately as under:—

	Lbs.	Value
...	900,000	£80,000
1913	787,000	63,000

The information available as to corks locally manufactured, the value of production in the latest year available, and the number of hands engaged is not to be had; however, it is known whether there are any of the cork-cutting machines used by this industry throughout Australia. The data collected in 1913 amounted to £10,458.

It was stated on behalf of the applicant, Vogt Bros. Ltd., that the average weekly rates of pay—for ... hours—were as follows:—

... per week; ... per week; ... per week;

elopment are made at the cost of other Australian industries. A certain amount of capital has been invested, and some employees have been diverted to this particular class of work. Otherwise the Commission would have recommended the abolition of the present duties.

Recommendation.

The Commission is of opinion that for the present the existing duties on corks should not be increased, and, in order to lessen somewhat the present waste in manufacture, it is considered that cork squares should be made exempt from duty. These are rectangular pieces of cork from which the corks are turned, and are at present dutiable at 15 per cent.

GLASS BOTTLES AND GLASSWARE.

No application for increased duties was received from any bottle manufacturer. This is rather remarkable in view of the number of bottles imported, and the only explanation appears to be that local manufacturers have been profitably occupied and have been unable to keep pace with the largely increasing demand during the recent years of exceptional prosperity. It was stated that "98 per cent. of the imported bottles are of kinds that are made here." This, however, is probably not altogether accurate. Included in importations there is an appreciable proportion of small and fancy bottles which could be, but are not, commercially made in Australia.

Of the two manufacturers who gave evidence, the Secretary of the Melbourne Glass Bottle Works Co. Pty. Ltd., which it is claimed has the premier works in the Commonwealth, said:—"Our industry has certainly increased each year for some years and the profits have been maintained, but the question which arises in my mind is, 'Why have the importations increased?' I am here to ask that the duty will not be reduced. If it is reduced, we will not keep up our profits. . . . I will go so far as to say that on the bottles we are making now the disadvantages we labour under are more than compensated for by the present Tariff as far as our business is concerned."

Mr. J. A. Angus, trading as Angus and Co., ink and glass bottle manufacturers, Melbourne, said:—"I think the present Tariff, generally speaking, is satisfactory, but I would rather see an increased duty on small bottles. The Japanese can compete up to the 4-oz. bottle . . . . There is less chance of competing in Australia in the smaller sizes, as the proportion of labour cost increases with decreasing size."

A significant feature of the evidence on this question was that the employees showed a strong objection to the manufacture of small bottles.

It would appear that our manufacturers hitherto have specialised on those lines which have yielded the most satisfactory results, and owing to their more limited demand, have refrained from seriously competing with pure white and fancy bottles.

The Secretary of the Melbourne Glass Bottle Works Co. Pty. Ltd., said:—"We do not make pure white glass bottles at present, but could do so if prices permitted. That fact would have something to do with our being handicapped on small bottles. We have never succeeded in turning out quantities of small white glass bottles. We can produce a clear white glass, but to do it we have to turn it out in small quantities, and it is not profitable."

This industry has to meet competition not only in regard to bottles which are imported empty in large quantities, but of bottles which have been imported as containers of other goods. A further exceptional feature is that unlike most other containers, bottles may be utilised again and again. For that reason it is quite impossible to ascertain with any reasonable accuracy the extent of the annual consumption or demand.

On the other hand, bottles are necessary packing materials for many Australian industries, and for that reason it is not desirable that their cost should be unreasonably enhanced. Referring to this aspect and the necessity for keeping pace with up-to-date methods elsewhere by obtaining the latest improved appliances, the representative of a local manufacturer stated:—"They will, of course, lessen the cost of production, and will, we hope, make the present rate of duty additionally effective. That is why we are not asking for an increase. We have great interest in keeping the price of bottles as low as possible for many reasons. We are in competition with a secondhand article. If our prices for bottles were too high we would lose the trade. The secondhand bottles would come in and cut us out altogether. For instance, there would be considerably more jam jars made if they could be made to compete with the tin."

Recommendation.

In view of the prejudical effect which an increase in the cost of bottles would have on many Australian industries using these containers, no increase in the import duties should be made without conclusive proof that it is necessary.

Owing to the nature of the goods, the local manufacturer has considerable natural protection against importation of bottles, made up of the freights and charges and percentage allowances for breakages.

The installation of improved machinery and appliances, a matter not being overlooked by them, will enable the local bottle manufacturers to better compete with importations.

Attention has already been drawn to the fact that no application was made for increased duties on bottles.

The Commission therefore recommends that no alteration be made.

SCIENTIFIC AND ANALYTICAL GLASSWARE.

Application was made by Wilson, Nafis, and Co. Ltd., scientific glass instrument manufacturers, of Brisbane, for the following alterations in duty—

> That the duty on thermometers, other than clinical, non-advertising, and pipettes and burettes be increased to 60 per cent. general and 45 per cent. preferential.

Mr. H. B. Silberberg, of H. B. Silberberg and Co. Ltd., importers and indentors of scientific apparatus, Sydney, applied for the remission of the duties on certain articles of glassware graduated

[illegible] and [illegible] ...ly [illegible] a [illegible] ...ts, and scientific [illegible] [illegible] ...t [illegible] of [illegible] ...ral purposes stated. With the exception of [illegible] ...ers, [illegible] ...for [illegible] ...purposes, and apparatus for [illegible] ...glassware is not made in Australia, and is not likely to be made on a commercial scale. It is largely used in Australia, for instance, by students, and in mining [illegible] ...laboratories. The mining students at the University have to pay duty on the scientific glassware they use, as the University does not apply to it.

In regard to local production, no official figures are available. Mr. W. Wilson, the applicant, stated—"I do not think glassware that we make comes under the heads in general commercial use in Australia."

He also stated—"Four persons (including myself) and a boy are employed in our works at present. . . . I have not gone into the question of manufacturing costs on a commercial scale. I do not know what the proportion of labour cost would be. As a rule, the labour is the major portion of the manufacture. . . . Our instruments are invariably made out of glass tubing; the glass works in Australia are not competent to make glass sufficiently uniform for our requirements, consequently it has to be imported from England, and the material, in many instances, would cost more than the finished work could be imported for from Germany. . . . A higher duty would only make it pay to repair more of these instruments when broken; as it is now, a great many are not worth repairing, as new ones can be bought as cheaply as breakages can be repaired, unless in the case of expensive instruments, used principally in manufacturing plants. We are at present repairing twenty large thermometers sent from Melbourne, for use in breweries and cold storage works. The bulk of our present trade is repairing and recalibrating."

Mr. J. B. Henderson, Government Analyst for the State of Queensland, was called by the Commission for the purpose of affording information as to the prospects of developing this industry in Australia. He said—"Practically no scientific glassware is made in Australia. Wilson, Nat's and Co. make comparatively little of it, taking into consideration the consumption in Australia. . . . A very much increased 50 per cent. or 60 per cent. would be no protection against the imported article. It would require more like 200 per cent. to [illegible] them."

Owing to the comparatively limited local demand, and also to the great variety of glassware required for scientific purposes, it is not at all probable that for many years our requirements will even to a reasonable extent be met by local manufacturers. So far the industry has been of a purely [illegible] character, with little or no industrial [illegible]. The total amount of duty paid on [illegible] is not ascertainable, but whatever it may be it is a charge on [illegible] efficiency and industrial progress, for it is undoubtedly necessary that [illegible] and [illegible] research work should be conducted under the most favourable conditions, and free from all possible restrictions. This feature has already been favourably considered in Tariff legislation by exempting Universities and other educational establishments from the payment of duty on scientific instruments and apparatus and materials for scientific purposes, which cannot reasonably be commercially manufactured or produced within the Commonwealth; but this exemption does not apply to private investigators, nor to others who are engaged in the control of industrial research work.

The Commission is not in a position to specify amongst the wide variety of scientific glassware what particular items can be commercially made, and what are not likely to be made in Australia. The simpler forms will probably be made here, though the raw material for the purpose of manufacture must be imported.

Recommendation.

In the opinion of the Commission, all scientific glassware should be exempt from duty, except for preference purposes, but if it is deemed advisable to continue Tariff encouragement with the view of developing the industry in Australia, it is recommended that alterations referred to above be made.

It will be observed that an increase in the margin of preference is suggested as, since the war, special effort is being made in the United Kingdom to capture this branch of trade.

Alkalis.

Recommendation.

Soda crystals are manufactured in Australia from imported raw material (soda ash). The conversion of the latter substance into soda crystals involves but little labour. Practically the whole of the requirements of the Commonwealth in this article is supplied locally. The present duty of 1/- per cwt. is therefore considered adequate.

In regard to the other alkalis named in the application, which are the main consideration in this report, the Commission, in view of the dearth of pertinent information, is unable to recommend the duties asked for. These alkalis are largely used as raw material for the purpose of the manufacture of soap and other commodities, and authoritative information is desirable before any steps are taken which would have the effect of interfering with our present source of supplies, unless they can be locally obtained in suitable quantity and quality, and at reasonable price. The subject is, however, worthy of early attention, since the large extent of natural salt deposits in South and Western Australia offers an almost unlimited supply of raw material for the purpose of manufacture.

Should the recommendations of the Commission in regard to the importance of scientific research work as an aid to the successful development of Australian industry be given effect to, the manufacture of alkalis and other products of economic value from our natural salt deposits will provide an appropriate subject for investigation.

DISINFECTANTS, INSECTICIDES, ETC.: TAR OIL, CARBOLIC ACID.

Applications for increased duty were received as follows:—

1. From A. D. Walker, managing director, Bituline Layers Limited, distillers and manufacturing chemists, Sydney:—

(a) That a duty of 30 per cent. be imposed on sheep dips and disinfectants in bulk

(b) That a duty of 2d. per gallon be imposed on crude tar oil.

2. Mr. J. Hendry, representing A. M. Bickford and Sons Limited, wholesale and manufacturing chemists, Adelaide:—

That the duty on arsenate of lead and other horticultural spray compounds be increased to 25 per cent. (Item 284.)

Applications were made on behalf of American and English manufacturers of arsenate of lead in opposition to increase of duty.

SHEEP DIPS AND DISINFECTANTS.

Mr. A. D. Walker, in support of the application by Bituline Layers Limited, stated:—

"We ask for the imposition of a duty of 2d. per gallon on tar oil, which is at present admitted free.

"At the present time we employ 14 men in our industry. We can produce about 1500 gallons of tar oil weekly. The Railway Department produces 1200 gallons a month, and the City Council produces it also. They have three or four stills.

"In Victoria the City Council, Melbourne Tramways and Omnibus Company, and James Forbes and Co., South Melbourne, have large distilleries. Various other municipal councils in Melbourne have their own stills too.

"In treating tar for road work, certain classes of tar oils are produced. The different councils do their own distilling, as they want to remove some of the oils, thereby rendering the tar tougher, and giving it better wearing quality. . . .

"If there were a duty on tar oil, it would still further tend to increase the production of tar oil.

"Tar oil is used in sheep dips and disinfectants. Creasote and carbolic are tar oils at different fractions.

"Tar oil is a fractional distillate. It is a by-product. We do not go into the industry to make tar oil, but we must make it.

"Tar oil is imported by the thousands of gallons yearly. I could not get official particulars, as it is grouped in the records as 'Oils, n.e.i.'

"The oil is very plentiful at the present time. I have been offered oil at 5d. a gallon from Melbourne.

"There is very little difference in the price of local and imported oil at times. Sometimes the local oil is cheaper than the imported.

"I also want the duty on sheep dips and disinfectants increased, as the more tar we distil the more of these we will produce.

"I would need 30 per cent. duty on sheep dips and disinfectants in bulk."

It is difficult to understand the real object of this application in which the manufacturer asks for a duty to be imposed on his raw material, which by reason of its being a by-product of another industry may be imported or obtained locally at a reasonable price. Tar is distilled principally for road-making. The oil is a secondary consideration, and no duty would influence the demand for tar for road-making. It is, farther, very questionable whether, if a duty were imposed, it would pay to treat tar merely for the purpose of oil extraction.

As distilled tar for road-making is the main product, and tar oil only a by-product of the business, the quantity of tar oil produced, to a large extent, depends on the demand on the part of municipalities for distilled tar. This demand, although it is steadily increasing, varies.

It was stated by a witness in opposition to the duty that—

"In regard to disinfectants, the tair oil contained would cost about 9d. in the finished product of 1/1. . . . . The same proportions would obtain in regard to sheep dips."

The managing director of Sayers, Allport Proprietary Ltd., of Sydney, manufacturing chemists, stated—

"A duty on tar oil would wipe out the industry of making sheep dips. At present it is nearly as cheap to import as to make locally, and about four-fifths of the consumption of sheep dip is imported. . . . .

"Tar oil is a waste product both locally and in England. It is not produced here to make disinfectants, but for selling as a waste product. . . . . It is what is left over in the distillation of tar. The tar oil must be eliminated. A great deal of it is allowed to go to waste.

"Carbolic is the acid active principle in the tar oil.

"A duty on tar oil, and not on carbolic acid, would mean that the duty would be 'dodged' by importing carbolic acid, and diluting it down."

The Commission is of opinion that as the economic importance to Australia of suitable and effective sheep, cattle and horse washes for the eradication and prevention of disease is so great, and that in the interests of the public health the free use of disinfectants is such an indispensable necessity, only the most conclusive evidence of their successful local production in abundance and with advantage to the community would justify the imposition of such duties as those applied for. No evidence of that character has been presented in support of the present application. The local distillation of tar oil from tar does not at present supply all that is required for the local manufacture of sheep dips and disinfectants.

ARSENATE OF LEAD AND SCALECIDE.

The representative of A. M. Bickford and Sons Ltd., of Adelaide, manufacturing chemists, in support of their application for the imposition of a duty of 25 per cent. on arsenate of lead, stated:—

"The imported article is in keen competition with us, chiefly, I think, because it was first on the market.

"At present there is no duty on it at all when imported in large packages. We ask for protective duty on it and other horticultural spray compounds.

"It is in the large quantities that we are interested. We consider that our preparations are better than the imported. Chemically our arsenate of lead is identical with the imported. . . . . I should say we do not supply 10 per cent. of the requirements of this State (South Australia)

[illegible] liable to [illegible] interests. At the present time we employ two men only, [illegible] We try to reduce [illegible] as much as possible. If we get the trade we could probably sell the same price as that at which the imported article is now being sold. We cannot lower our prices.

We cannot find out definitely what price the growers receive for the imported article. . . . We have to pay more for raw material than they do in America, and at present we pay more *pro rata* for labour than in America. I have no definite particulars as to these. I can only surmise. We use imported raw materials. . . . .

Our manufacturing charges amount to 100 per cent. on the cost of the materials. If we increased our output we would considerably reduce our cost. Two men could make ten times the amount we are now making if they were employed full time. So working, the labour cost would be 12 per cent. . . . If duty is put on, we might employ two or three more men."

It will be observed that, although the evidence is somewhat contradictory, it indicates that by the employment of two men, somewhere near 10 per cent. of the requirements of South Australia in arsenate of lead are satisfied, and that these two men could make ten times the present quantity if they were working full time. Further, the whole of the raw material must be imported, and as that constitutes the major value of the finished article, no appreciable economic advantage will be derived on that account. On the other hand, the horticultural industry must have this particular [illegible]. It is an indispensable necessity, and its [illegible] value in eradicating [illegible] to the very great advantage [illegible] our home and export fruit trade.

[illegible] possible question as to which is the more important industry. The manufacture of arsenate of lead is a mere mixing of imported [illegible] with which no skilled labour is required, and only the smallest amount of labour is involved. Although the evidence is that if the proposed duty of 25 per cent. on arsenate of lead imported in bulk, is imposed, it would not lead to increased prices of the finished article; it must necessarily be paid by those orchardists who may consider the imported brand is more suitable for their purpose. The Commission is not certain that any industry [illegible] would be attracted by the imposition of the duty applied for.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

GLYCERINE.

An application was received from the Australian Explosives and Chemical Co. Ltd. that—

"Refined glycerine for use in the manufacture of explosives be admitted free of duty."

Under the 1908-11 Tariff refined glycerine is dutiable at 30 per cent. general, 25 per cent. preferential. Unrefined glycerine is exempt from duty.

Messrs. Lever Bros. Ltd., of Sydney, and J. Kitchen and Sons Ltd., of Melbourne, urged that there should be no reduction in duty.

Several wholesale chemists and druggists applied for an increase in duty on refined glycerine.

It will be observed that the application for increased duties on refined glycerine is made by certain wholesale chemists and druggists who are not producers of crude glycerine. This commodity is a by-product of the soap industry. It is produced in Australia, and large quantities are refined by the soap manufacturers for local requirements. The refiners have not asked for increased duties. They are prepared to supply large quantities of refined glycerine to the local market, and it is only because such local demand has hitherto been insufficient to absorb their output that the surplus glycerine has been exported in the crude form.

The application for exemption from duty of refined glycerine for use in the manufacture of explosives is not one which is entitled to favourable consideration. Apart from Tariff encouragement which the present duties extend to the soap industry, it is a matter of primary importance that the raw material for the manufacture of explosives should, as far as practicable, be produced in Australia. That is the case at present in regard to refined glycerine, and any reduction in duty may tend to this product being exported in greater quantity in its crude form.

Recommendation.

The Commission is of opinion that no alteration in the present rates of duty on refined glycerine is necessary.

OPIUM FOR MEDICINAL PURPOSES.

Application was received on behalf of the Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia, that "Opium for medicinal purposes be exempt from duty."

The 1908-11 Tariff provides—

	General.	Preferential
Item 203. Opium, for medicinal purposes only, under Departmental by-laws . . . . per lb.	30s.	30s.
Item 214. Opium contained in any medicinal preparation which such preparation would be liable to higher duty if not over the leading, per	30s.	30s.

[illegible] which duty was collected for [illegible] ended 1915 [illegible], and the duty [illegible] £211.

In support of this application, it was urged that—

"The principle adopted in Division IX. of the Tariff [illegible] as few restrictions as possible on the importation of crude drugs and chemicals which could not be produced locally.

"This was done in order that hospitals, dispensaries, and the sick and [illegible] should be

taxed as little as possible in regard to the medicines used by them. . . . .

"The present duty on these items is 30s. per lb. . . . Originally this duty was fixed at a high rate with the idea of checking the importation of opium which might be used for smoking purposes. . . . . .

"If the principle of checking the illicit use of a drug by means of high duties were followed in every case, then morphia and cocaine, which are now on the free list, should be placed in the same category as medicinal opium. . . . .

"Observation through the Customs, followed by the present system of checking adopted after the drug reaches the hands of the licensed importers, would appear to be sufficient check on the illicit use of the drug, without the imposition of a high duty."

The retention of this duty on opium for medicinal purposes appears to be an oversight. When first imposed on smoking opium, it was intended (as in the case of spirits) for revenue requirements, but it cannot be said that when it is necessary as a medicine for the purpose of alleviating pain and suffering it is an appropriate subject for revenue taxation.

The Commission is of opinion that this aspect of the case has only to be mentioned to assure the abolition of duty on opium for medicinal purposes.

No risk of misuse should be involved by such a course, since the present safeguards would be equally efficient whether medicinal opium is exempt from duty or otherwise.

It transpired, in the course of evidence, that the poppy is cultivated in Australia for the production of opium.

Mr. S. Fripp, member of the firm of Rocke, Tompsitt and Co., wholesale druggists, stated—

"I have bought hundredweights of opium that has been grown at Bacchus Marsh and in Gippsland. It is very fine, though I do not think it is suitable for smoking. It is very rich in morphia, and there is an absence of narcotine. I understand the Chinese will not smoke it.

"I do not think there is any grown here at the present time. I got 2lb. this year. That was all I was able to buy. Before that, I could get it in 30 and 40lb. lots.

"We must keep a book showing where we procure our opium, and take out a licence. The grower must also do this."

It is presumed, in view of the prohibition of importation of smoking opium, and the efforts to restrict opium-smoking, that every effort is made by the authorities to control the illicit use of locally-cultivated opium.

It would seem desirable that opium cultivation should be placed under the direct supervision of State authorities, and its cultivation only permitted in the Governmental experimental farms, if they are favourably located for that purpose.

The Australian Association of British Manufacturers and their representatives asked that a preference of 10 per cent. might be extended to the United Kingdom on opium for medicinal purposes.

Recommendation.

The Commission is of opinion that opium for medicinal purposes should be free from any duty and consequent expense to those who are compelled to use it.

RABBIT POISON TABLETS.

Application was made by Mr. H. W. Erhard, of Sydney, importer and merchant, for remission of duty on "Bunendo" Rabbit Poison Tablets.

They are absorbent paper discs which are locally impregnated with poison. It is a German patent which covers the discs or cartridges as well as the liquid poison.

The paper discs are dutiable as "Manufactures of Paper, n.e.i.," 1908-11 Tariff, Item 357 (B), at 30 per cent. general, 25 per cent. preferential.

It is stated that when the discs are imported fully impregnated they are exempt from duty. In cases of this character, when parts are dutiable, and the finished article is exempt from duty, it is rather a matter to be dealt with under 1908-11 Tariff, Item 434, "Minor Articles, prescribed by Departmental By-laws, for use in the manufacture of goods within the Commonwealth," than by specific provision in the Tariff.

Recommendation.

The Commission is of opinion that the present application is more appropriately one for investigation and decision by the Customs Department.

SODIUM PEROXIDE AND OTHER CHEMICALS.

Application was made by Mr. R. J. Fletcher, manufacturing chemist, at North Geelong, that a Tariff preference of from 15 per cent. to 20 per cent. might be extended to the United Kingdom in respect to sodium peroxide—largely used for bleaching purposes—and other chemicals.

This application was made by Mr. Fletcher, not from any personal interest in the manufacture of the chemicals referred to, but from sympathy with the principle of preference to British goods.

In the absence of any applications from manufacturers interested and of any information from the applicant, the Commission does not recommend any alteration in the present duties.

SULPHUR CANDLES.

An application was received from Mr. J. T. Turner, of Melbourne, manufacturer of special sanitary appliances, for a duty of 30 per cent. on sulphur candles, now dutiable as disinfectants under the 1908-11 Tariff, Item 284 (B), at 15 per cent.

The applicant stated—

"My business is very small. I employ no hands at all; my wife and I do the whole work. We have a casual labourer for about two months in the year. Under present conditions, there is no profit.

"If there were a fair duty on the imported article it would be profitable. I have only one competitor in sulphur candles, and that is America.

"The raw material is imported. The percentage of labour cost to the value of the finished article is about 10 per cent.

"I have no figures of comparison between my cost of manufacturing and the price of the imported article landed here."

[illegible] and [illegible] to [illegible], and [illegible] to all appearance [illegible]. It is questionable, even if the request were granted, that it would prove of any [illegible] to the applicant.

[illegible] under the impression that [illegible] were exempt from duty, and upon being [illegible] the position he stated, "If it is a fact that the imported article pays 15 per cent. duty [illegible] protection."

Under these circumstances no further action appears to be necessary.

Early Closing.

Saturday Afternoon Closing.

After a spirited controversy, in which the advocates of the Saturday afternoon closing movement did not have it all their own way, the following Order-in-Council was passed on May 2, and gazetted the following day:—

Factories and Shops Act 1915.

EXTENSION OF CHEMISTS' SHOPS IN THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT.

At the Executive Council Chamber, Melbourne, the second day of May, 1916.

Present: His Excellency the Governor of Victoria, in Council.

Present, Mr. McLeod, Mr. Higgins.

Under the powers in that behalf conferred by the *Factories and Shops Act* 1915, His Excellency the Governor of the State of Victoria, by and with the advice of the Executive Council thereof, upon a petition signed by a majority of all the shopkeepers (exclusive of hawkers and pedlers) of the particular class or kind to be affected, doth hereby make the following Regulations, that is to say:—

(1) The Regulations made on the nineteenth day of June, 1911, relating to the hours of closing of chemists' shops within the metropolitan district as defined in the Factories and Shops Act 1915, shall cease and determine, and the same are hereby revoked.

(2) All chemists' shops (being shops of a class or kind mentioned in the Fourth Schedule to the *Factories and Shops Act* 1915) within the metropolitan district, as defined in the *Factories and Shops Act* 1915, shall be closed in each week during the whole of each year on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from the hour of Eight o'clock in the evening, and on Friday from the hour of Ten o'clock in the evening, and on Saturday from the hour of One o'clock in the afternoon, and such closed shops shall be permitted to reopen on the evening of Saturday in each week from the hour of Six o'clock until Eight o'clock.

And the Honorable Sir Alexander James Peacock, His Majesty's Minister of Labour for the State of Victoria, shall give the necessary directions herein accordingly.

J. W. MERRETT,
Clerk of the Executive Council.

Personal & Business.

Properly authenticated paragraphs, preferably sent by the persons interested, are inserted under this heading.

New South Wales.

Mr C. M. Vidwater has bought the pharmacy of Mr. F. Jones, of Thirroul.

Mr. Moore, of Moore and Birks, Adelaide, has been holiday-making in Sydney.

Mr W. T. Pinches, of Prahran (Vic.), has been spending a fortnight in Sydney.

Mr. J. B. Henry, a Victorian pharmacist, has been holiday-making in the Blue Mountains.

Mr. A. J. Newton, of Enmore, has sold his pharmacy to Mr. F. Jones, lately of Thirroul.

Mr. Lancaster, lately managing one of Pattinson's shops, has bought the pharmacy of Mr. W. S. Park, Junr., of Gordon.

Mr. Frank Buckhurst, President of the P.D.L., paid a business visit to Sydney on May 12, and stayed a few days in the city.

Mr. A. G. Skinner, Wonthaggi (Vic.), who was recently married, has been on a visit to New South Wales, accompanied by his wife.

Mr. R. H. Cains, who recently opened a business at Pymble, informs us that he is not a brother of Mr. W. G. Cains, of Sydney, as was stated in our last issue.

Mr. Morrison, pharmacist, of Wellington (N.S.W.), has sold his pharmacy to Mr. W. J. Vincent, recently dispenser to the Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital.

Mr. A. J. Newton, of Enmore, has been acting as pharmacist to the No. 4 Military Hospital at Randwick with rank of Lieutenant. He expects to go to the front shortly.

The Featherstone Chemical Co., manufacturers of patent medicines, etc., 110 Bathurst Street, Sydney, has been registered under the Firms Act. Partners: Neil Featherstone, Ernest Earle, and Jas. Fielding.

Victoria.

Miss D. Gough is managing the late Mr. McBurney's business at Kilmore.

Mr. W. H. Gross, has joined the dispensing staff of the Melbourne Hospital.

Mr W. J. Bowen, Beechworth, has disposed of his business to Mr. C. Hembrow.

Mr W. J. Marshall, late of Yarrawonga, is assisting at the Footscray Dispensary.

Mr Percy R. Bayley, pharmacist, Werribee, has been appointed a Justice of the Peace.

Mrs. E. M. Simpson (nee McBurney) has purchased the dispensary of Dr. Harkin, Chiltern.

Mr A. G. Dunlavson, late with Mr. F. T. Stacy, Mildura, has joined the staff of Mr. W. H. Cornell, Ballarat.

Mr J. A. Kay, after fulfilling an engagement with Mr R. E. Charles, Richmond, goes on to the Melbourne Hospital Dispensary.

Mr A. L. McNeil has returned after his holiday, and resumed the management of the pharmacy of the late Mr. E. V. J. Hughes, Nathalia.

Mr. J. J. Carroll, after completing an engagement with Mr. Lilyman, of Albury, subsequently acted as locum for Mr. S. Morrow, Daylesford, and Mr. H. J. Mewkill, St. Arnaud.

Mr. S. H. Hexshall, of South Melbourne, has just returned from a trip to New Guinea, Java, Singapore, Madras, Ceylon and Western Australia. The trip occupied nine weeks.

Mr. Jas. Hetherington, after relieving for Mr. H. E. Elphick, Castlemaine, and Mr. J. A. G. Crawford, South Melbourne, has gone to act as locum tenens for Mr. W. H. Andrew, Healesville.

Mr. J. W. Mowat, pharmacist, of Bay Street, Port Melbourne, died on May 16th, aged 55 years. Mr. Mowat was registered in Victoria in June, 1890, as the holder of the British Minn. certificate. He was for many years in business in Port Melbourne, where he was highly respected. Mr. Mowat was one of the delegates from his district to the Central Committee of the Metropolitan Chemists' Association. Mr. John Watson represented the Port Melbourne, South Melbourne and Albert Park section of the M.C.A. at the funeral.

Mr. Edward Taylor, of Messrs. Taylor and Colledge, Brisbane, passed through Melbourne on May 5 on his way home after an enjoyable holiday in Adelaide. Mr. Taylor, who is now in his 78th year, is as bright and active as ever. He paid a visit to the College of Pharmacy, and expressed himself as surprised and gratified at the excellent educational facilities provided by the institution.

St. Kilda Dispensary.—It is understood that the Friendly Societies in St. Kilda have refused to agree to an increase to 10/- per member being paid to the local chemists, and are contemplating opening a dispensary in High-street, St. Kilda, at an early date.

Hawthorn Dispensary.—At the half-yearly meeting of the Hawthorn Friendly Societies' Dispensary it was reported that a profit of £120 had been made for the six months ended March 31. The establishment of the Kew branch, it was claimed, was amply justified, as 989 members living in that district had been enrolled. In order to provide for increased expenses expected it was decided to raise the quarterly assessment from 2/- to 2/2 a member.

Dispensary for Sandringham.—A conference of delegates of the Friendly Societies of the district was held at the Mechanics' Institute, Sandringham, on April 25, to consider a notification from the local chemists of a proposal to increase the fees by 50 per cent. The unanimous opinion of the delegates was that the increase was unreasonable, and a resolution was carried that the chemists be informed that the societies will not agree to the additional charges. Consideration was given to a proposal for the creation of a friendly societies' dispensary for the district, but it was pointed out that, as there were only 500 lodge members, the scheme would not be practicable without a large increase in the medical contributions. A sub-committee was appointed to interview the executive of the Brighton Dispensary, to see under what terms they would establish a depot in Sandringham.

Marriages.—Mr. F. H. Gough, pharmacist, of Echuca, was married on March 23 to Miss Ivy Ferrier, of Portland. Mr. Harold B. Keig, assistant to Mr. F. Backhurst, was married to Miss Dulcie V. Clark, at Scots' Church, Melbourne, on March 25. The marriage of Mr. H. W. H. Clarkson, pharmacist, of Sydney-road, Brunswick, to Miss Gertrude Bignell, Ph.C., youngest daughter of Mrs. M. A. Bignell, Carlton, took place at St. Mary's Church of England, North Melbourne, on April 24. The honeymoon was spent in New Zealand.

Masonic.—On the 9th May, at the Moira Chapter of R.A. Masons, held at Benalla Ex. Comp., James Blackie, of Euroa, was installed as first principal. The ceremony was performed by M.E. Comp. Lambert, assisted by M.E. Comp. Dr. Nish, P.Zs. of the Chapter, and M.E. Comp. W. Denby, P.Z., of Wangaratta. We offer our congratulations to M.E. Comp. Blackie.

Death of Mr. John King, Jun.—The friends of Mr. John King, jun., Ballarat, will learn with deep regret of his death, which occurred from meningitis on May 7. The deceased, who for the past 15 years had been associated in business with his father, Mr. John King, senr., chemist, was seized by an illness on May 5. During the night the symptoms became such that the next morning a medical man was called in. At once the case was diagnosed as meningitis, and the premises were placed under quarantine. The case developed with great rapidity and virulence, and the patient steadily sinking, died at 8 a.m. on May 7. The late Mr. King, who was 38 years of age, passed his Final Qualifying Examination in September, 1900. He was married only two months ago to Miss Florrie Roberts, of Campbell's Cresent.

Queensland.

The Friends of Mr. Geo. Watkins will be pleased to hear he is maintaining his strength and is able to move about at home.

Mr. Edward Taylor, head of Messrs. Taylor and Colledge, is an enthusiastic bowler. While on a bowling visit to the southern States, as far as Adelaide, he celebrated his 78th birthday in Melbourne. He was the recipient of many congratulatory telegrams from his friends in Brisbane, with whom it was his custom to foregather in former years on that occasion. He is the youngest man in the drug trade in Australia today, if we count on his activity, business acumen, and sense of humour. We present Mr. Taylor with our good wishes, and we trust he will live many years, and that he will continue to enjoy the same good health he does at present.

Mr. S. H. Stroud, who was brought from England to assist in the Government Analyst's laboratory, has accepted a position with Messrs. Faulding and Co., of Adelaide. He leaves Brisbane on the "Osterley." He expects to spend some days in Sydney and Melbourne. Mr.

Str[illegible] was brought up to the wholesale house [illegible] Leicester, and was one of the [illegible] young men who at Bloomsbury Square Schools, having carried off the Pariera and other medals and many prizes. He will be regretted among his many friends in Brisbane. He is a pharmaceutical chemist of Great Britain, and an Associate of the Institute of Chemistry.

Mr. Stewart Byron Watkins, son of Mr. G. Watkins, has recently graduated with first-class honors in Science at the Queensland University. His scholastic course from his earliest days has been extremely brilliant. He is generally described as a young man of whom something further will be heard of in the world of science.

Dr. Norman, son of Mr. W. A. Noble, of Toowoomba, who graduated in medicine at Edinburgh University last year, recently returned to Australia on a troopship in charge of wounded and invalided soldiers.

MOVEMENTS OF ASSISTANTS—

Mr. Lamb has gone to Mr. J. C. Allen, of Ipswich.

Mr. F. B. Tomkyns is managing for Mr. T. F. Hall, of Ipswich.

Mr. H. E. Mackay, late with Mr. W. L. Trimm, has gone to Mr. W. Ockleford, of Kingaroy.

Mr. H. Powell, late of Mackay, has been engaged by Mr. L. A. Wilkinson, Queen Street, Brisbane.

Mr. A. S. Tate, late of Rockhampton, is relieving Miss Just at the Children's Hospital, Brisbane.

Mr. B. L. Barrett has left the employ of the executors of the late Mr. Touzeau, of Hughenden, and has gone to Messrs. W. H. Green Ltd., of Townsville.

Mr. Priddle, a New South Wales chemist, has left Messrs. W. H. Green Ltd., and has gone to manage Tunbridge's business at Hughenden.

Mr. O. Roggenkamp, late with B.U.P.S. Dispensary, Brisbane, is now managing Messrs. W. H. Green's business, at Ayr, replacing Mr. S. P. Clarke, who has joined the military forces.

Miss E. Green, Secretary of Messrs. W. H. Green Ltd., is giving up her appointment, to enter the bonds of Holy Matrimony.

Messrs. A. J. Monahan and J. O'Neill have recently joined the staff of the B.U.P.S. Dispensary, Brisbane.

Mr. O'Reilly, late apprentice with his brother, Mr. A. O. De Vere O'Reilly, of Bowen, has entered the staff of Mr. Rhenehan, South Brisbane.

CHEMISTS ON HOLIDAY.

Mr. N. Green, of Toowoomba, has been visiting Brisbane.

Mr. R. James, of Gatton, has been visiting Brisbane.

Mr. C. Morley, of Tweed Head, has been visiting Brisbane.

Mr. W. A. Noble, of Toowoomba, has been holidaying at Tweed Head.

Mr. P. V. Armati, the veteran chemist of Townsville, is visiting the southern States.

Mr. P. Kelly, of Cairns, has returned home from a visit to the eastern States.

Trade Notes.

Market Reports.

London cable advices report a rise in Phenacetin to 85/- per lb. The following lines are also reported to have advanced in price:—Cod Liver Oil, Strychnine, Castor Oil, Borax, Boracic Acid, Iodide of Potassium, Formaldehyde, Acetic Acid, Tartaric Acid, Citrates, and Cream of Tartar.

Trade Mark Applications.

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EMPIRIN.—Burroughs, Wellcome and Co., London.

RESSOLVAX.—Silvertown Lubricants Ltd., North Woolwich-road, London.

LAROSAN, PROTYLIN, SEPODROL.—Hoffmann-La Roche Chemical Works Ltd., 7 and 8 Idol-lane, London.

JEMOLTODRI.—Lucien Granx, 33 Avenue, Kleber, Paris.

Class 48.—Toilet Preparations, Perfumery, Etc.

CHLOROX.—A. C. Blacklow, Chemist, George and Hunter streets, Sydney.

LYSPERIS.—L. T. Piver and Cie, 10 Boulevard de Strasbourg, Paris.

THE KEPHRIN CO., Sydney, announce that having been able to effect a saving in the cost of manufacture, they have been able to make an approximate reduction of 25 per cent. in the price of their Kephrin Tablets. The present prices of the line are 20 under the actual landed cost of raw material in last shipment. Phenacetin in New York, in 50lb. lots from manufacturers, in April, was quoted at £5 7s. 2d. per lb. nett—an increase in 18 months of 4000 .

"TRIMETHOL," the new intestinal bactericide and antifermentative, is prepared by the Walker-Leeming laboratories in bottles containing 100 capsules (each capsule contains 1¼ m. Trimethol). It is also prepared in the form of syrup and sent out in 4 oz. bottles, each dram representing 1¼m. Trimethol. The selling agents are Thomas Leeming and Co., Woolworth Building, New York, U.S.A. In America the selling prices are—Capsules, 1 dollar per bottle; syrup, 50 cents per bottle.

HYBOL.—Messrs. Felton, Grimwade and Co. have placed this well-known line on the P.A.T.A. list. The wholesale price has been fixed at 24/- per doz., and the retail price at 2s. 6d. per bottle.

"THROATOIDS," Giraffe Brand, manufactured by the Throatoid Co., Prahran, are now being extensively advertised. Pharmacists are recommended to have them in stock when the demand sets in. Supplies may be obtained from the various wholesale houses. The line shows a good margin of profit to the retailer. A "Throatoid" announcement appears elsewhere in this issue.

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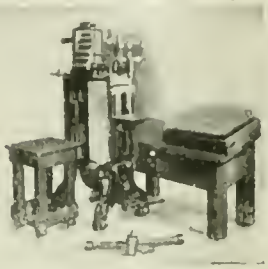

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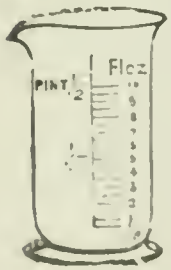

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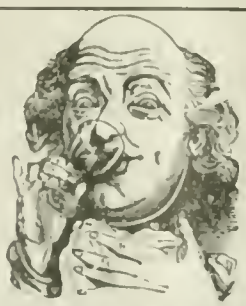
THE NEXT PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION will be held on 15th and 16th JUNE, 1916. Authors for 1916 are Scott's "Lady of the Lake," Canto 2 and Caesar, De Bello Gallico Book 5.

A. FORSTER, Registrar,
7 Richmond Terrace, Domain.
Sydney, January 1916.



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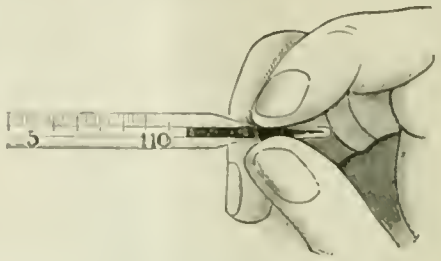

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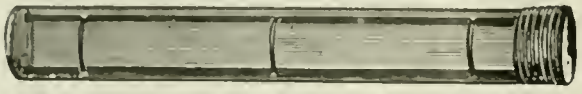

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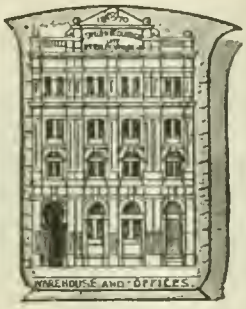

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Pharmacy Board Notices.

MEDICAL ACT 1915, PART III.

THE PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION.

AS required by Section 95, Sub-section of the "Medical Act 1915," Part III., is held at the COLLEGE OF PHARMACY, Swanston Street, Melbourne, in MARCH, JUNE, SEPTEMBER, DECEMBER.

Next Examination: THURSDAY and FRIDAY, 1st and 2nd June, 1916.

The following are the compulsory subjects:—

LATIN.—Grammar, accidence and syntax. Translation of simple sentences into Latin. Translation into English from Cæsar, De Bello, Gallico, Book I., Chapter 1-29, inclusive, or Vergil Aeneid, Book I., Lines 1-401, inclusive.

ENGLISH.—Grammar and Composition. Literature. The University Text Book in English.

ARITHMETIC.—First four rules, simple and compound; vulgar and decimal fractions; simple and compound proportion; profit and loss; simple and compound interest; true and commercial discount and present worth; extraction of square root; British and metrical system of weights and measures; problems relating to lineal, square and cubic measurements, averages.

ALGEBRA.—Notation, symbolic expressions, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Highest common factor and lowest common multiple. Fractions, cyclic order. Extraction of square root. Proof of algebraical identities. Simple equations of one and two variables. Quadratic equations of one variable. Equational problems.

GEOMETRY.—The substance of Euclid Books I. and II. Any recognised Text Book may be used

TIME-TABLE.

FIRST DAY.

Latin	10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Arithmetic	2 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

SECOND DAY.

English ...	9.30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m.
Algebra	12.30 p.m. to 2.20 p.m.
Euclid ...	3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

EXAMINATION QUESTIONS.

The questions given at the examinations are published in the "Australasian Journal of Pharmacy" for March, June, September and December in each year. 1s. a copy.

PASS STANDARD.

THE marks for a pass in any of the compulsory subjects of the Preliminary Examination shall not be less than 50 per cent. of the maximum marks of 100, and an aggregate of 60 per cent. in all the subjects.

ENGLISH TEXT BOOK.

The Text Book in English for March and June, 1916, will be:

A Victorian Anthology (M. P. Hansen.) Part I.

To be memorised—

Tennyson—*Three Songs* and *Crossing the Bar*

Browning—*Prospice.*

Kipling—*Flag of England.*

Henley—*England.*

Newbolt—*Clifton Chapel.*

Cuthbertson—*Sunrise.*

The Text Book in English for September and December, 1916, and March and June, 1917, will be:

English Prose and Verse (F. Sinclaire, M.A.) Part I.

To be memorised—

Shakespeare—*When to the Sessions.*
When Icicles Hang.

Milton—*Paradise Lost* ("He scarce had ceased" to end of selection.)
When I Consider.

Keats—*Ode to Autumn.*
Much Have I Travelled.

Wordsworth—*The Solitary Reaper.*
Scorn Not the Sonnet.

Tennyson—*Break, Break, Break.*
Crossing the Bar.

Candidates must give written notice of their intention to present themselves, together with the Fee of One Guinea, TEN DAYS prior to the date fixed for the examination.

INTERMEDIATE EXAMINATION.

MATERIA MEDICA, BOTANY, CHEMISTRY, AND PRACTICAL CHEMISTRY.

THE EXAMINATION of Students who have attended the Lectures in the above subjects is held half-yearly in June and December. The next examination will be held at the COLLEGE OF PHARMACY on 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th June, 1916. The Examination Fee of Two Guineas must be paid before that date.

THE FINAL EXAMINATION.

The next FINAL EXAMINATION IN PRACTICAL PHARMACY before the Board will be held at the College of Pharmacy on the 12th, 13th, 14th and 15th June, 1916.

Candidates must give ten days' written notice of their intention to present themselves. Indentures of Apprenticeship and the Certificates required by Sections 96 and 98 of "The Medical Act, 1915," Part III., must be lodged with the Registrar, and the Fee of Three Guineas paid ten days prior to the day of examination.

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(Medical Journal of Australia, March 11, 1916).

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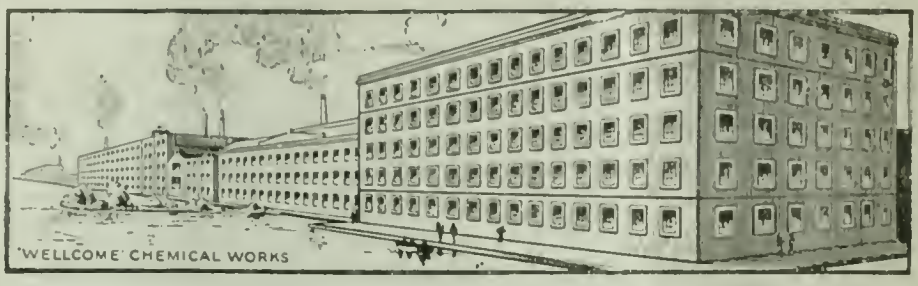

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